

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND  
PRIVACY ACTS**

**SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

**HQ FILE: 100-50869**

**SECTION 15**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

## NOTICE

**THE BEST COPIES OBTAINABLE ARE INCLUDED IN THE REPRODUCTION OF THE FILE. PAGES INCLUDED THAT ARE BLURRED, LIGHT OR OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO READ ARE THE RESULT OF THE CONDITION AND OR COLOR OF THE ORIGINALS PROVIDED. THESE ARE THE BEST COPIES AVAILABLE.**

REC-34

100-50869 - 8-51

3187A

December 13, 1961

EX-108

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

I have received your letter of December 7, with enclosure, and appreciate the concern which prompted you to write to me.

In connection with the matter you discussed, representatives of the FBI who are privileged to speak before various groups throughout the country, do so with my full knowledge and approval. I can assure you that their remarks on communism do not repudiate, in any way, statements I have made in my speeches, or that have been reflected in my book, "Masters of Deceit." Any remarks by a representative of this Bureau, however, should not be interpreted as a defense or endorsement of any group, since this is not a proper function of the FBI.

*Handwritten notes:*  
Sullivan  
Sullivan  
Sullivan

Our churches have been and will continue to be important targets in the over-all communist program of endeavoring to infiltrate our established institutions, and we must remain alert to such efforts to subvert our way of life. The communists have tried to infiltrate every part of our society, and I agree with you wholeheartedly that patriotic Americans must continue to take a firm stand against communism and combat it wherever possible. But this opposition to communism must be careful, constructive and positive; and it must always be kept within the due process of law. In reference to Mr. Cassels' article, Assistant Director William C. Sullivan, in his discussion of communism, dealt with this subject accurately and objectively.

MAILED 30  
DEC 13 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosed is some literature pertaining to the general subject of communism which may be of interest to you.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Bishop
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

RECEIVED

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

1 - Indianapolis Enclosure  
1 - Mr. Sullivan - Enclosure

DEC 13 3 24 PM '61

DEC 29 1961  
Enclosures (5)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT   
JRS:RJS (5)

NOTE & ENCLOSURES NEXT PAGE

REC'D  
ADVISOR  
DEC 13 3 22 PM '61

[REDACTED]  
12-13-61

**Enclosures (5)**

**Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism  
Communist Illusion & Democratic Reality  
Internal Security 4-17-61  
The Communist Party Line  
Christianity Today Series -- The Communist Menace**

**NOTE: Bufiles contain no record for either [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] Correspondent enclosed an article from a back issue of a newspaper written by Louis Cassels, UPI reporter which discusses the speech of Assistant Director William C. Sullivan which involves communism and National Council of Churches of Christ. The National Council of Churches of Christ is comprised of the leading members of the Protestant clergy and, of course, has not been investigated by the FBI.**



December 7, 1961

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Evans	
Mr. Malone	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Ingram	
Miss Gandy	

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

DEC 11 1961  
31 X-PROE

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I need help and information, and because I have always been implicitly in you and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, I turn to you now.

First, I shall have to confess that I have been one of the terrible "right-wing conservatives" for as long as I can remember. In my high school class I stood completely alone in my belief that the OPA should be allowed to die----and that was 16 years ago! I belong to none of the organizations formed to discuss or actively fight collectivism, Communism, and such; although for several years I have been reading and studying the threat of Communism and trying to influence whomever I can to do likewise. I have believed that I cannot awaken anyone to the dangers facing us as a nation unless they will "do their homework"; then they will make these discoveries for themselves.

I am a mother of four youngsters aged five to nine, a Methodist who attends church with her children and husband every Sunday. I was elected permanent class secretary at Indiana University from which I was graduated with "high distinction".

All of this background is only to help you see (I hope) that I am a very normal person who tries hard to do right and has enough intelligence to discern right from wrong. I have read many books and papers of both the conservative and liberal persuasion and feel that I am as objective as possible in my criticism of those who do not agree with me.

My immediate problem is my forthcoming participation in a panel discussion for our church on the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. In my criticism of the National Council of Churches I intend to avoid any charges of Communist influence within the church or the Council because I honestly feel there are enough other valid arguments to use. I know, however, that in the question period to follow, these charges will be brought up. My minister, who wholeheartedly supports the Council, will see that they are aired, feeling that we have no believable evidence. I have tried to make him understand why I feel that although "a Christian minister couldn't be a Communist", a Communist could become a Christian minister. But more important to me---that whether a minister is an actual Communist or not isn't the most important thing. If the clergy supports their program time and again, they are of infinite more worth than a party member would be. The leading churchmen of our city, the most vocal and the most prominent, have the most extreme left-wing views---which views they preach as the only Christian views. These men, and my minister is among them, dismiss any charge of subversion as a personal insult and ridiculous. They use the quoted statements of Mr. William C. Sullivan from the article of Louis Cassels which I have enclosed. This article appeared in our local paper several months ago. I worried about these statements at

ENCLOSURE  
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 100-50869-121  
 DEC 29 1961  
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 DEC 21 1961  
 CORRESPONDENCE

the time they appeared. I reread chapter 23 of Masters of Deceit and I still worried. My husband went down to our local FBI office because he also was concerned that maybe we were Amateur Communist hunters! Your local agents were most cooperative and understanding and completely uncommunicative---as I am sure they are supposed to be. We decided after his visit that since we knew Louis Cassels, the UPI writer, to be quite also liberal and an apologist for the National Council, that perhaps he had quoted out of context or had allowed his bias to unduly emphasize what he wanted emphasized. However, I cannot use supposition to support my position on a panel discussion. What is the answer to Mr. Sullivan's statements? They are being used in church after church in our area to answer anyone who questions the possibility of any degree of Communist influence on the ministry..

Can you help me? Do these expressions of Mr. Sullivan's as here quoted represent wholly the views of the FBI? Could it be Mr. Cassels emphasis on such terms as ----alarming infiltration---churches are overrun--- substantial success----on a national scale--- that make the statements while true, read wrong? Is his use of the names "self-appointed vigilantes and amateur Communist hunters" fair to those who are genuinely worried about the future of their country?

I shall be awaiting your reply. Many thanks in advance for any information you may be able to give me and many more thanks quite tardily for all the help you have given all Americans for a long, long time.

Sincerely,



# Hoover Deplors Church Attacks

By LOUIS CASSELL, UPI Reporter

Christianity and Communism stand in the same relationship as yes and no, white and black, the North Pole and the South Pole.

They are categorical opposites.

Christianity affirms the sovereignty of God and ascribes infinite worth to each human being because he is a child of God.

Communism denies the existence of God, and values the individual only as an instrument and servant of the state.

No rational person can be a sincere Christian and a sincere Communist at the same time.

Communists know this. That is why they persecute Christian churches — sometimes openly, sometimes subtly — in every country in which they have gained power, from Russia to Cuba.

In free nations like America, Communists cannot suppress the churches but must think of other tactics.

## COMMUNISM 'SHOWS'

Communists undoubtedly have tried in the past to infiltrate the churches by having disguised Communists work their way up to positions of leadership, particularly in the ranks of the clergy.

They have learned that this is easier said than done. As a practical matter, it is enormously difficult for a Communist to pose convincingly as a dedicated Christian even for the space of one conversation, let alone through the long years of seminary study and pulpit service which are required of any man who becomes an influential leader in United States church life.

But although they have failed to infiltrate the churches in any substantial way, there is evidence that the Communists like it when charges are made that they actually have done so.

The Communists know that in the present climate of American feeling there is no

surer way of discrediting the leadership of churches and of sowing confusion and discord among their lay members than for the suspicion to be nourished that a substantial number of Christian clergymen are secret supporters of the Communist conspiracy.

You may think all of this is far-fetched, but the Federal Bureau of Investigation does not.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover is deeply concerned about the danger that self-appointed "vigilantes" may, in the name of anti-Communism, play into the Communists' hands.

## FALSEHOOD REVEALED

During the last few years, Hoover has sent FBI chief inspector William C. Sullivan to deliver speeches in many parts of the nation, warning Americans not to be taken in by charges that their churches are overrun with Reds.

"These allegations have served to create the impression among many Americans that the Protestant denominations in particular have been subjected to alarming infiltration and influence," Sullivan says. "But this is a patent falsehood. The truth of the matter is that the Communist Party has not achieved any substantial success in exerting domination, control or influence over America's clergymen or religious institutions on a national scale."

Sullivan is not making this statement on his own authority. He is speaking with the full approval and personal backing of Hoover. And the FBI director has so informed a number of amateur Communist hunters, who wrote to him protesting Sullivan's speeches.

"The most interesting reaction," an FBI official told United Press International, "has been from the Communists. They are very upset by Sullivan's remarks."

ENCLOSURE

December 5, 1961

100-50969-838

REC-54

[Redacted]

DEC 5 4 25 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 28, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 20  
DEC 5-1961  
COMM-FBI

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- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (5) What You Can Do To Fight Communism  
 Faith in God - Our Answer to Communism  
 4-1110 Internal Security Statement  
 The Communist Party Line  
 Christianity Today Series--(The Communist Menace)


RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

DEC 11 1961 MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

JH-100 (3)

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*



**NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles. The FBI has not conducted an investigation of Circuit Riders, Inc. Our files do reveal that it is an organization of laymen who have been carrying on an anticommunist crusade which has been aimed mainly at communist infiltration into churches and clergymen. The headquarters of the organization is located at Cincinnati, Ohio, and one of its targets has been opposition to policies of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA.**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

November 28th, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

The writer being a ruling elder and member of the Session of the 1st Presbyterian Church, [REDACTED] has been concerned with various claims from members of our congregation that the National Council of Churches is Communist dominated. These people are using literature such as the "Circuit Rider" as the basis for their opinions.

We would appreciate receiving any information which you would care to present to us to combat these rumours. (or to substantiate)

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

REC-54

100-50519-825

11 DEC 6 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

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TH:K

NOV 30 10 30 AM '61

November 29, 1961

REC-5 100-50869-837

[Redacted]

Nov 29 5 09 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
F B I

Dear [Redacted]

113

Your letter of November 19, 1961, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. In addition, information in FBI files must be maintained as confidential through a regulation of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer either that we do or do not have the specific data you requested.

In view of the interest you expressed, I am enclosing some literature dealing with the subject of communism and religion. You may also wish to consider my book, "Masters of Deceit," which was written in the hope that it would become a primer for those interested in learning the true nature and objectives of communism. You may be able to obtain a copy of it at your local library.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 10  
NOV 30 1961  
COMM-FBI

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DEF  
FBI

DEF  
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- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (4)  
 Communism: The Better Enemy of Religion  
 Faith in God Our Answer to Communism  
 God and Country or Communism?  
 Series from Christianity Today - The Communist Menace


SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

EFT:hir (3)

*ew*

*Handwritten signatures and initials*



**NOTE:** Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)



November 19, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Chief of F.B.I.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I understand a few Churches belong to the National Council of Churches. I know ours does. In reading a Bulletin by American Council of Christian Laymen, I understand The National Council is Red.

Could you send me conclusive proof of People, and their Address that are Communist in this organization. Hoping to hear from you soon. Thank You.

Respectfully,



100-50864- 827

REC-5

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EX-113

CORRESPONDENCE

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PLA 5: 50 hr.

REC-43100-50869-226

November 27, 1961

EX - 131

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

I have received your letter of November 20 and appreciate your interest in writing.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

In connection with the matter you mentioned, representatives of the FBI who are privileged to speak before various groups throughout the country do so with my full knowledge and approval. I can assure you that their remarks on communism do not repudiate in any way statements I have made in my speeches, or that have been reflected in my book, "Masters of Deceit." Assistant Director William C. Sullivan in his discussions of communism has dealt with this subject accurately and objectively.

It is a continuing program of the Communist Party to attempt infiltration of every part of our society, including religion. This is still true today. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations. I would like to emphasize, however, that churches will continue to be important targets in the over-all subversive plan of endeavoring to control our established institutions, and we must remain alert to any attempts to replace our national traditions with the atheistic philosophy of communism.

NOV 27 1961

In view of your concern, enclosed is [Redacted] material on the general subject of communism I thought you might like to read.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evers \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Sincerely yours,  
John Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

66 DEC 5 1961

Enclosures (2)

Enclosures and note next page.

BS:jks (3)

REC'D - READING ROOM  
NOV 27 1 25 PM '61



**Enclosures (5)**

**Internal Security Statement 4-17-61**

**4-1-61 LEB Introduction**

**What You Can Do To Fight Communism**

**The Communist Party Line**

**The Communist Menace:- Christianity Today Series**

**NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent.**

Nov. 20, 1961

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director of FBI,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

According to what I have read and heard over the radio about the "Air Force Manual," I have not read it, it stated that the National Council of Churches and a number of its officers were somewhat liberal or leaning toward communism in views and in actions.

I have here a list of men who supposedly investigated the National Council of Churches and found the charges made in the Air Force Manual untrue. These men were representatives to the National Council of Churches: Dr. John S. Land, Chairman; E. Roe Bartle, Mrs. T. Smith-Brewer, John E. Bryan, James R. Allock, D. J. Cumming, G. J. Currie, M. C. Dendy, R. A. Farnsworth, Mrs. D. R. Freeman, Evelyn L. Green, James A. Jones, Ben R. Lacy, Jr., J. A. Millard, Jr., W. O. Murray, C. H. Pritchard, J. G. Patton, L. L. Wilkins, Jr., and Ferguson Wood. (Did not realize there were women on the committee).

To support this report they cite the following references: Letters from Secretary of Defense and Secretary of the Air Force Congressional Record, April 18, 1960, pages 7669-7707, Magazine "Eternity," Sept., 1960 issue: Barnhouse Investigation Statements by Dr. Wm. E. Elliot, pamphlet dated June 1, 1960: "What about the National Council of Churches?" J. Edgar Hoover correspondence, "Communism Fronts and the Clergy," and FBI: Wide Communist Infiltration in Churches a 'Falsehood.' In this last named sheet it is stated that you are deeply concerned about the danger that self-appointed "vigilantes" may, in the name of anti-communism, play into Communists' hands. It also states that you sent FBI Chief Inspector William C. Sullivan to deliver speeches in many parts of the nation, warning Americans not to be taken in by charges that their churches are overrun with Reds. Of course I do not believe that my church is exactly overrun with Reds, but I do believe that there are quite a few liberals and those who are carrying out the orders of the Reds just as truly as if they were taking orders from the Reds. Please give me your honest opinion on The National Council of Churches and tell me whether or not you did send Mr. Sullivan on such a mission. Just what has the FBI found out about the National Council of Churches. I would also like to have something on The World Council of Churches. Are there liberals in that too? Thank You.

EX - 131  
Your truly  
REC- 63/00-50869-8  
NOV 29 1961

[Redacted signature block]

NOV 22 1961

11-29-61  
ES: [unclear]

nmh

NOV 23 1961

8/2

EX-105  
REC-12 100-50869-835

November 28, 1961

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI  
5 47 PM '61

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of November 22, 1961, has been received, and the thought prompting you to write is appreciated.

With respect to your inquiries, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In this connection, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I regret I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects about which you asked.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
D  
H  
DEM  
P

MAILED 22  
NOV 28 1961  
COMM-FBI

*Handwritten initials:* LSP

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. The NCCC was formerly known as the Federal Council of Churches. (100-50869)**

**NOTE CONTINUED NEXT PAGE**

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT   
SAW:js (3) DEC 4 1961

*Handwritten initials:* SAJ

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
Nov. 22, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover  
F. B. I.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:--

I would like to have the following information. Is Mr. Lawman of the Circuit Riders, Cincinnati, a Communist? Is Mr. Billy James Harris of the Christian Crusade, Tulsa, Okla. a Communist? Has Communism infiltrated the Federal Council of Churches -- or does that organisation aid and abet Communism? The reason for these questions is, when I quote Mr. Harris or Mr. Lawman as an authority, many say 'He is, no doubt, a Communist himself. And people say Mr Hoover hasn't said anything about Communism and the Federal Council. When you reply, may I have your own signature, as I want it as proof.

Thanking you in advance, I am

Sincerely yours

/s/ [REDACTED]

*1 True Copy  
11-27-61  
ACK  
11-28-61  
Sued. J.*

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

Nov. 22, 1961

37

J. Edgar Hoover  
F. B. I.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:-

I would like to have the following information. Is Mr. Lawman of the Circuit Riders, Cincinnati, a Communist? Is Mr. Billy James Hargis of the Christian Cause, Tulsa, Okla. a Communist? Has Communism infiltrated the Federal Council of Churches - or does this organization aid and abet Communism? The reason for these questions is, when I quote Mr Hargis or Mr Lawman as an authority, many say "This, no doubt, a Communist himself. And people say Mr Hoover hasn't said anything about Communism and the Federal Council of Churches."

When you reply, may I have your own signature, as I want it as proof. I am thanking you in advance. I am  
Sincerely yours

-New copy  
11-27-61  
A. H.  
11-27-61  
11-27-61

EX-105

100-50867-81

NOV 23 1961

RECEIVED  
NOV 23 1961

REC-15 100-504661-834

November 27, 1961

NOV 27 1 29 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

EX 113

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 20, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and the interest prompting you to communicate with me is appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, the FBI, being an investigative agency of the Federal Government, neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. In view of this, I want to assure you that I did not make the statement attributed to me.

I am enclosing some material on the general subject of communism you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 10  
NOV 27 1961  
COMM-FBI

*[Handwritten signatures]*

- Enclosures (3)
- The Deadly Contest
- 10-61 LEB Introduction
- The Communist Party Line

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan ✓
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent. This matter has been brought to the Bureau's attention previously and extensive research failed to disclose that the Director made the statement, "that criticism of the National Council for the Abolition of Communism was made largely by groups that are anti-Communist, but also non-Christian."

JCF:rap  
DEC 1 1961  
MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*[Handwritten initials and signatures]*

*[Handwritten initials]*



Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Malone	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Ingram	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

*W*  
*V*

**[REDACTED]**  
November 20, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing an article which recently appeared in "The Mobile Press Register." I would like very much to know if you made the statement attributed to you in said article.

I am a christian and I am interested in anything for the betterment of our country and I am also very willing to take a stand against anything communist affiliated.

I would appreciate very much hearing from you. Thank you.

Respectfully yours,

/s/ **[REDACTED]**

COPY:hbb

*mm*

*1-29-61*  
*26*

*8-20-61*

[Redacted]

November 20, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir: National Council of Churches

I am enclosing an article which recently appeared in "The Mobile Press Register". I would like very much to know if you made the statement attributed to you in said article.

I am a Christian and I am interested in anything for the betterment of our country and I am also very willing to take a stand against anything Communist affiliated.

I would appreciate very much hearing from you. Thank you  
Respectfully yours,

[Redacted Signature]

ENCLOSURE

NOV 25 11 40 AM '61

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100-50849-934

17 NOV 22 1961

NOV 26 1961

32

[Handwritten initials and scribbles]

MOBILE PRESS

# Women's Pages

## Church Women Hold Meetings

### DAUPHIN WAY METHODIST

Mrs. M. E. Weatherby presented a program on "The World Council of Churches" at the general meeting yesterday of the Woman's Society of Christian Service of the Dauphin Way Methodist Church.

The Council will hold its next meeting in New Delhi, India, this month at which time it will search for the real purpose of the church—to know Christ and to make Him known.

This Council was organized in 1948 in Amsterdam, Holland, Mrs. Weatherby said, when 143 churches joined. In 1954 the second meeting was held in Evanston, Ill., with the theme "Jesus, the Light of the World."

"The council," Mrs. Weatherby said, "is now composed of 170 churches in 50 countries and only three churches in America remain outside of the World Council. Even the Russian Orthodox Church sent observers to the last meeting, she said.

Mrs. Weatherby explained that the council "represents a basic unity among the different Protestant and Greek Orthodox churches."

In conclusion, she stated that the National Council of Churches of the United States is composed of 33 unions and 38 million people. "J. Edgar Hoover has pointed out," she said, "that criticism of the National Council has been made largely by groups that are

anti-Communist, but also non-Christian."

The devotion was given by Mrs. J. R. Quinlivan III and luncheon was served to 84 members and guests by the Jimmie Cunningham Circle. Mrs. James A. Erskine gave the invocation.

100-50864-873-1

ENCLOSURE

1 - Mr. Gurley

November 24, 1961

*h*

X113

REC-45 100-50869-833

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated November 15, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communicating with me is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. For your further information, a regulation of the Department of Justice prohibits the disclosure of information in our files to other than appropriate agencies in the executive branch of the Federal Government. I am precluded, therefore, from complying with your request. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

I have always encouraged our citizens to educate themselves to the true nature and methods of the communist movement in order that they may intelligently resist the zealous efforts of its adherents to destroy our form of government. This knowledge also helps to avoid the danger of confusing communism with legitimate dissent on controversial issues. We cannot use vigilante action or action outside the law in combating communism and it is the responsibility of the people to be certain of the facts and then to report these facts to the proper authorities. By Presidential Directive, this Bureau is charged as the civilian investigative agency responsible for the internal security of this Nation.

Nov 27 11 59 AM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

MAILED 60  
NOV 27 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED DIRECTOR

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

[REDACTED]

In view of your interest in the internal security of the United States, I am enclosing several items of literature concerning the evil threat of communism. You may desire to read my book, "Masters of Deceit," which is the story of communism in America and how to fight it. This book should be available at your local library or bookstores.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (5)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Bufiles contain no identifiable references to the correspondent.

The National Council of the Churches of Christ has not been investigated by the Bureau. We have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party to infiltrate it through our over-all investigations of the Communist Party, USA. It does not appear that the policies of this organization are being dictated by the Communist Party. (100-50869)

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent:

1. "The Communist Party Line."
2. "Red Goals and Christian Ideals."
3. "What You Can do to Fight Communism and Preserve America."
4. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."
5. "Faith in God - Our Answer to Communism."

November 15, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigations  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs;

I am only an ordinary citizen but I dearly love my country and feel deeply concerned about the dangers that seem to surround us and want very much to do my share toward helping to keep our country free.

My husband and I have joined a Freedom Study group, that was organized by other citizens like myself, after attending the lectures given by various speakers during Freedom Week in [redacted]. We belong to the Methodist church in [redacted] which you doubtlessly have never heard of, considering it's minute size. However, we have been hearing and reading all sorts of talk about the National Council of Churches, to which our church now belongs. Most of this talk is claimed as factual, and sums up to the statement that this Council has been infiltrated very extensively by the Communists and Socialists. Is this true?

I've been told that your office cannot or will not give me this information...as a private citizen. But that I could obtain the answer I am seeking if I were a public official, and was directly concerned in some manner with an investigation. Well, I'll admit that I'm not a public official, but my husband and I both are official members of the Church board and are very definitely concerned with investigating whether or not the National Council of Churches is a Communist front organization. Seems to me, every private, or public citizen of this country not only deserves but needs this sort of information, so we can also help protect our rights and privileges. So many others, like myself, want very much to help fight those who are insidiously trying to undermine our government, but we have to understand and know exactly who we are fighting among our own little areas.

Thank you for whatever information you have to offer.

REC-45  
Sincerely yours,

100-50869-835

17 NOV 20 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

ACK. w/enc  
11-24-61  
LTG/jpd.

NOV 30

[redacted signature]

November 27, 1961

REC-26

100-50861-432

[Redacted]

DEAR [Redacted]

Your letter of November 20, 1961, with enclosures, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest, together with the pamphlet and self-addressed, stamped envelope you sent.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 11  
NOV 27 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Enclosures (4) Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
- 4-17-61 Internal Security Statement
- The Communist Party Line
- Christianity Today Series--(The Communist Menace)
- Correspondent's two enclosures

NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bulletin.

64 DEC 1 1961

JH:lc (2)

[REDACTED]

November 20, 1961

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

Enclosures are a leaflet "How Red is the National Council of Churches?" and a self-addressed envelope. I hope you can return this leaflet to me and a statement concerning this leaflet or of this kind of leaflet in general.

I am the pastor of the Methodist Churches of the [REDACTED] Area of the [REDACTED] Conference of the Methodist Church. I feel I need your statement if I am to help my people become aware of the danger that is around us today. If these things are facts then I need to be awoken.

Thank you for your help.

Yours truly,  
[REDACTED]

REC-96, 00-50869-832

NOV 28 1961

CORRESPONDENCE JH

ACK  
11-27-61  
3H:k

ml



November 22, 1961

REC-13 100-50869-831

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of November 16, 1961, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files must be maintained as confidential through a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret I am unable to answer your inquiry and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have the specific data you requested.

Since the manual you mentioned was issued by the Department of the Air Force, I am referring a copy of your letter to The Honorable, The Secretary of the Air Force, Washington 25, D. C., for any aid he may be able to give you.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism and religion which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. EDGAR HOOVER

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 3  
NOV 22 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (4)

- God and Country or Communism?
- Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion
- "Faith in God--Gur Answer To Communism"
- Series from "Christianity Today" The Communist Menace

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Copy of incoming referred by form to the Department of the Air Force.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TELETYPE UNIT

64 NOV 22 1961

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RECEIVED  
NOV 22 1961  
K 58 PM '61

FROM [unclear]

Key [unclear] DCM [unclear]

ch

[unclear]



November 24, 1961

REC-105

100-50869-830

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 19, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

Nov 24 4 41 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

MAILED 20  
NOV 24 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

- Enclosures (4) A View of Reality
- Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
- The Communist Party Line
- One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles.

JH:lc\* (3)

62 NOV 28 1961

TELETYPE UNIT

[REDACTED]

Nov 19, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear sirs;

I am quite interested in establishing a  
factual appraisal of the National Council  
of the Churches of Christ and any tendency  
toward socialism or communism. Any help  
you might offer would be appreciated.

Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

REC-105

100-52869-830

12 NOV 27 1961

CORRESPONDENCE  
[Signature]

. ACK  
11-24-61  
JH'6  
[Signature]

REC-62

November 24, 1961

100-50469-829

EX-113



Dear [Redacted]

NOV 24 5 07 PM '61  
FBI  
READING ROOM

Your letter of November 18, 1961, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. In addition, information in FBI files must be maintained as confidential through a regulation of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer either that we do or do not have the specific data you requested.

In view of the interest you expressed, I am enclosing some literature dealing with the subject of communism and religion. You may also wish to consider my book, "Masters of Deceit," which was written in the hope that it would become a primer for those interested in learning the true nature and objectives of communism. You may be able to obtain a copy of it at your local library.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 4  
NOV 24 1961  
COMM-FBI

*Handwritten signatures and initials: "DAN", "KCM", "BWC", "EIT"*

Enclosures (4)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion  
 Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism  
 God and Country or Communism?  
 Series from "Christianity Today" The Communist Menace:  
 TE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

*Handwritten notes: "E 33", "P. 11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100"*

587 RECEIVED DIRECTOR

Continued next page.

TELETYPE UNIT

**NOTE: The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**

November 18, 1961

The Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As a member of the [redacted] Congregational Church I am interested in finding the answer to some questions that have come to our attention. There has been a lot of talk of infiltration of communists into the National Council of Churches. I have also been reading in our daily newspapers where the communists have been ordered to register with the government. Would it be possible for you to give me any information as to whether the officers or helpers of the Council of Churches are or have been communists or giving any assistance to the Communists.

On December 6, 1961 we are to vote at our meeting as to whether to donate to this organization and also the amount to be given. I personally am against giving to an organization where part of the leaders are Communists or where any part of the money involved goes to communists.

If I can have some authorized material on this subject I will know how to proceed.

Thank you very much for any assistance you can furnish.

100-50869-827

Respectfully yours,

[redacted signature]

REC-62

NOV 20 3 53 PM '61

NOV 27 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

Oct 11-24-61  
EKT: [initials]

November 24, 1961

REC-33  
SII-VI  
EX-115

100-50864-828

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of November 14, 1961, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions concerning any organization, publication or individual. In addition, information in FBI files must be maintained as confidential through a regulation of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer either that we do or do not have the specific data you requested.

With respect to your discussion, I pointed out in my book, "Masters of Deceit," that it is a continuing program of the Communist Party to attempt infiltration of every part of our society, including religion. This is still true today. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations. I would like to emphasize, however, that churches will continue to be important targets in the over-all subversive plan of endeavoring to control our established institutions. Patriotic Americans must continue to take a stand against communism and combat it wherever possible. This opposition to communism must be careful, constructive and positive, and it must be kept within the due process of law.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the subject of communism and religion you may wish to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

See note and enclosures next page.

NOV 24 5 40 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
F B I

MAILED 7  
NOV 24 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

EFT:bir (3)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

Enclosures (5)

Handwritten notes and signatures: "BOM", "DOW", "Eft", "H. G. W.", "DEC. 10", "H. G. W.", "DOW", "Eft"



**Enclosures (5)**

**Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism**

**Internal Security statement 4-17-61**

**God and Country or Communism?**

**Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion**

**Series from Christianity Today - The Communist Menace**

**NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. His inquiries pertained to communist infiltration of the NCCC. The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**

[REDACTED]

November 14, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Office of the F.B.I.,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am writing as a minister of The First Presbyterian Church of [REDACTED] who is concerned about the criticism being directed toward the National Council of Churches by some members of my own Congregation. I am sure that much of their criticism is generated out of fear, because of reading periodicals and listening to speakers who have generated more heat than light on the subject.

Therefore, I am interested in securing whatever information you can make available to me as to just what percentage of the clergy who are affiliated with the National Council of Churches, are known communists. Also, what is being done to rid the Council of these men?

I am sure you share my deep concern for the peace, unity and purity of the Church of Christ. You know, as I do, that the Christian Church is a bulwark against Communism all over the world. We cannot let the church be split by persons reacting against the church solely out of fear. This is exactly what the communists want. I appreciate any assistance you can give me in helping to make the church stronger, and more united in the struggle of the spirit of man against the atheistic dialectical materialism of our age.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

EX-115

TMH:mbw

REC-33

[REDACTED]

100-51769-5-5

NOV 27 1961

ek

ack 11-24-61  
and ET-T/114

November 22, 1961

EX-115

REC-45

100-50869-827

[Redacted]

Nov 22 5 17 PM '61  
REC'D - HEARING ROOM  
FBI

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 12, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 20  
NOV 22 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5) Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion  
Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism  
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality  
The Communist Party Line  
Christianity Today Series

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
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- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_


SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

EFT:lc\* (3)

ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

64 NOV 29 1961

*[Handwritten signatures and notes]*  
NOV 25 8 30 AM '61  
REC'D  
EFT



**NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The Federal Council of Churches is another name by which the National Council of Churches is sometimes known. The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**

TRUE COPY

[Redacted]

Nov 12, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation;  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

I have watched several controversial panels on T. V. in regard to communists infiltrating the Federal Council of Churches. I am deeply concerned about this and would like to know if you have any factual information regarding this matter either pro or con.

My specific church has shown several films such as 'Operation Abolition' and 'Red Trap'. So we are well aware that the Communists are often very subtle. Do send me any information you may have in regard to the Federal Council of Churches.

Sincerely,

/s/

[Redacted Signature]

EX-113

REC-46

100-50869-5

NOV 27 1961

[Redacted]

3-91

ACK  
11-30-61  
EFT:k

1 TRUE COPY  
11-21-61  
RCS

mmh

[REDACTED]

Nov 12, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation;  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

I have watched several controversial panels on T.V. in regard to communists infiltrating the Federal Council of Churches. I am deeply concerned about this and would like to know if you have any factual information regarding this matter either pro or con.

My specific church has shown several films such as 'Operation Abolition' and 'Red Trap'. So we are well aware that ~~the~~ <sup>CORRESPONDENT</sup> communists are often very subtle. Do send me any information you may have in regard to the Federal Council of Churches

PC 41-22-41.44

EX-115

REC-46 100-50869-826

November 21, 1961

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 15, 1961, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. In light of the foregoing, I am unable to comment regarding the group you named.

REC'D-READING ROOM

Nov 21 4 16 PM '61

With respect to your discussion, I would like to clarify my position on the subject of communism and religion. In my book, "Masters of Deceit," I pointed out that it is the continuing program of the Communist Party to attempt infiltration of every part of our society, including religion. This is still true today. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations. I would like to emphasize, however, that churches will continue to be important targets in the over-all plan of endeavoring to control our established institutions, and we must remain alert to any attempts to replace our national traditions with the atheistic philosophy of communism.

*Handwritten notes:* [Illegible]

I am enclosing some material on communism which may be of assistance to you.

MAILED 80  
NOV 21 1961  
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*Handwritten checkmark*

*Handwritten initials*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
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- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
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- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
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- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
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NOV 21 4 16 PM '61

F. B. I.  
Enclosures (5)

See enclosures and note next page.

EFT:cal (3)

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*Handwritten initials*

  
**Enclosures (5)**

**Internal Security statement 4-17-61**

**Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism**

**The Communist Party Line**

**Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion**

**Series from Christianity Today - The Communist Menace**

**NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**



[REDACTED]  
November 15, 1961

Dear Sir:

Could you help clear some confusion in my understanding? Do you believe that the National Council of Churches is Communistic?

In recent weeks I have been shown two articles, both quoting you, and each drawing a conclusion; and the two conclusions are mutually exclusive. I am beginning to think that you, like the Bible, are being quoted to prove whatever the speaker's predetermined position is. Within one week I heard two sermons--one anti-National Council and one pro-National Council--each quoted you.

Please, what do you believe? I have concluded the only way I can know your opinion is to do just what I am doing--ask you!

I hope you can help me arrive at a better understanding of the position individual Christians should take in relation to church organizations.

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C.

REC-15

EX-115

100-50869-82

NOV 27 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

ack 11-21-61  
ms EFT/lin/col

EX-115  
REC-76 100-50869-8-5

November 24, 1961

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated November 16, 1961, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files must be maintained as confidential through a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret I am unable to answer your inquiry and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have the specific data you requested.

Enclosed is some material dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 20  
NOV 24 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5) - God and Country or Communism?  
4-17-61 Internal Security Statement  
"Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"  
Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion)  
Christianity Today Series -- (The Communist Menace)

SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

EFT:lc\* (3)

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- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
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- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOV 30 1961

TELETYPE UNIT

NOV 24 4 15 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

NOV 25 1961  
15 W  
31  
11 11 11

DEM  
BIZ

Eff

**NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.**

**The World Council of Churches is allegedly composed of most of the Christian churches throughout the world except the Roman Catholic Church and certain small sects. Bufiles contain no identifiable information of a derogatory nature concerning this organization. Many inquiries have been received regarding communist infiltration of this organization. (100-231551)**

**The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist-controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**

TRUE COPY

  
Nov. 16, 1961

Director of F. B. I.  
U. S. Dept. of Justice  
Pennsylvania Ave.-9th St. Northwest  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir;

Would you kindly send me information regarding  
subversive activities within the National Council of Churches and  
World Council of Churches also infiltration of churches in America.  
Thank you

Sincerely,

/s/



*1- True copy  
1-22-61*

*11-24-61  
H. H. C*

REC-46

EX-115

100-50869-52

17 NOV 27 1961

*8-ef*

[REDACTED]

Nov. 16, 1961

Director of F. B. I.  
U. S. Dept. of Justice  
Pennsylvania Ave. - 9th St. Northwest  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs;

Would you kindly  
send me information  
regarding subversive  
activities within the National  
Council of Churches and  
World Council of Churches  
also infiltration of churches  
in America. Thank you  
Sincerely,

1-7-61  
11-2-61  
1-1-62  
1-1-63

CORRECTION

November 20, 1961

*esa*  
*gm*

100-50869-824

REC-54

EX-104

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Nov 20 5 40 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

I have received your letter of November 15, with its enclosure.

In connection with your inquiry, this Bureau, as strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not draw conclusions nor make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer that we do or do not have data pertaining to the subject about which you asked.

Enclosed is some material which might be of assistance together with the pamphlet you sent.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*WGA*  
✓

MAILED 20  
NOV 21 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (3)  
Communism and Religion in the United States - Mr. Sullivan of  
Christianity Today series - The Communist Menace  
Correspondent's enclosure

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Next page.

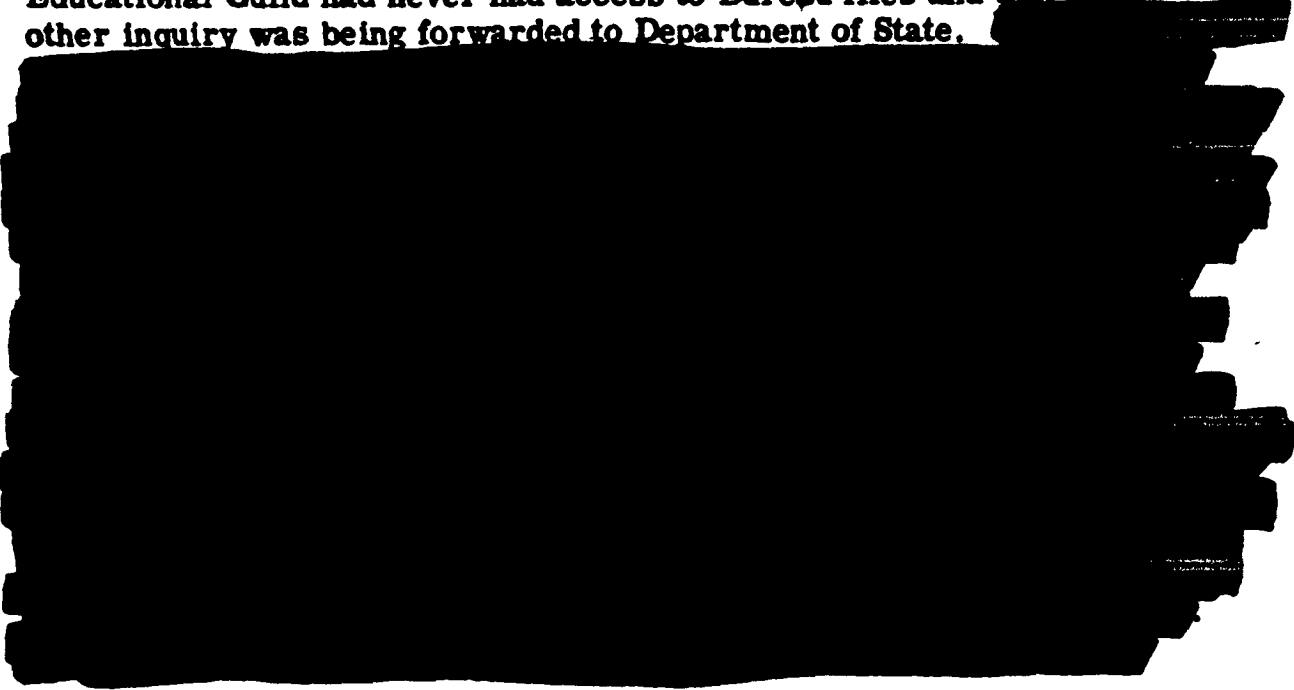
RECEIVED  
E.B.T.  
[Handwritten initials]

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten notes]*  
REC'D  
[Handwritten initials]

66 NOV 29 1961 TELETYPE UNIT

**NOTE: Correspondent wrote October 18, 1961, concerning the Cinema Educational Guild, Inc., and UNICEF. She was advised that the FBI did not make evaluations; however, she was also advised that the Cinema Educational Guild had never had access to Bureau files and that her other inquiry was being forwarded to Department of State.**



[REDACTED]

November 15, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover;

A few weeks ago I wrote you concerning the fact that we were having some trouble in our community in regard to pamphlets being distributed against UNICEF, UNITED NATIONS etc. Now they are being widely distributed against NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES as per enclosed pamphlet.

I appreciated very much your reply to my last letter and I am sure that you will be able to help with this.

This group of people who are circulating these pamphlets are causing so much trouble in the churches.

We need some definite facts concerning the National Council of Churches or a statement in regard to them.

We have not been able to find out anything about the Tax Tax (No. 31 or The Independent American.

Any help along this line will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

REC- 54

100-5-69-814

31 NOV 22 1961

EX 104

ENCLOSURE  
14  
11-17-61  
JH

CORRESPONDENCE



EX-115  
REC-30 100-50869-855

November 21, 1961

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 15, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files must be maintained as confidential through a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret that I am unable to answer your inquiry and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have the specific data you requested.

In my book, "Masters of Deceit," I pointed out that it is a continuing program of the Communist Party to attempt infiltration of every part of our society, including religion. This is still true today. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations. I would like to emphasize, however, that churches will continue to be important targets in the over-all subversive plan of endeavoring to control our established institutions. Patriotic Americans must continue to take a stand against communism and combat it wherever possible. This opposition to communism must be careful, constructive and positive, and it must be kept within the due process of law.

Enclosed is some literature which may be of assistance

to **FOUR MAILED 80**  
**NOV 21 1961**  
**COMM-FBI**

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (3)

See next page for enclosures and note.

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

EFT:dit (3)

REC'D HEADINGS ROOM  
FBI  
Nov 21 4 16 PM '61

*Handwritten notes:*  
Sullivan  
12/1/61

*Handwritten signatures:*  
DeLoach  
Mohr

*Handwritten initials:*  
EFT

**Enclosures**

**4-17-61 Internal Security Statement**

**Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion**

**"Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"**

**The Communist Party Line**

**The Communist Menace: Series from "Christianity Today"**

**NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

November 15, 1961

PHONES [REDACTED]

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

*National Council of churches*

Dear Mr. Hoover:-

I am exceedingly wearied by the unfounded charges of communism against the ministers and churches. These wild charges are made with no documentary support, and yet the public is sadly confused.

In the interests of truth can you tell me if there is any evidence for these accusations? Have you ever had in your records the name of a minister who was avowedly communist, or do you know of any Christian church or Christian organization that has become dangerously communist?

I will appreciate your evaluation of these charges.

Thanking you, I am

REC-30  
NOV 15 2 10 PM '61

Very truly yours, ~~CORRESPONDENCE~~

[REDACTED]

EX-115

REC-30 100-50869-523

NOV 22 1961

*msd  
Jed: 11-21-61  
EFT: jpp/mt*

AWK  
REC-49

November 17, 1961

100-50869-812

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of November 13, 1961, has been received, and I want to thank you for your kind statement.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry. I hope you will understand why, as a matter of policy, we cannot recommend any other source for obtaining this information.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 20  
NOV 17 1961  
COMM-FBI

NOV 17 4 39 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

- Enclosures (4)
- The Deadly Contest
- A View of Reality
- The Communist Party, Inc.
- One Nation's Response to Communism

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

JH:mew (3)

62 NOV 20 1961  
MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
12-19-61  
DCM  
[Signature]

**NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles. The Federal Council of Churches was an early name for the National Council of Churches of Christ.**

**The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**

TRUE COPY

11-13-61

Dear Mr Hoover

I am a very active member of the First Christian Church of [REDACTED] and have been reading how much the communists have infiltrated into our churches.

One article is about the National Council of Churches, was known as the Federal Council of Churches.

Is there anyway in which I can get more information on this?

If this is wrong in asking you for this information I am very sorry, but you are one person I still trust.

Thank you

/s/ [REDACTED]

REC-49

100-50867-812

(8)-84

11-13-61

Dear Mr Hoover

I am a very active member  
of the First Christian Church of  
[REDACTED] and have been  
reading how much the Communists  
have infiltrated into our churches.

One article is about the National  
Council of Churches, was known  
as the Federal Council of Churches.

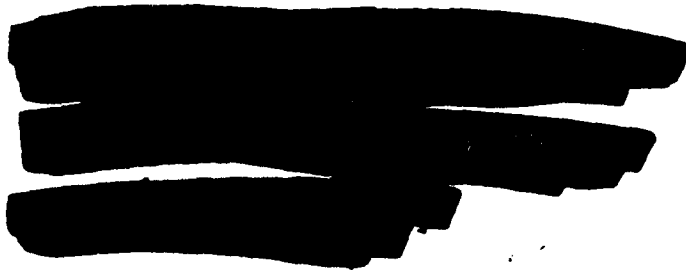
Is there anyway in which I  
can get more information on  
this?

If this is wrong in asking  
you for this information I

CORRESPONDENCE

U J' -- you  
are one person I still trust.

Thank You



REC'D-CORR. & TOURS  
FBI  
Nov 15 12 42 PM '61

11/15/61



REC 91/100 - 50869-821

November 30, 1961

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 14, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiries.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

MAILED 80  
NOV 20 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (4)  
Communism & Religion in the United States by Assistant Director  
William C. Sullivan

"Faith in God - Our Answer to Communism"  
The Communist Party Line  
Christianity Today Series (The Communist Menace)

NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles. Signature name used to address correspondent since she could be using mother's letterhead.

JH:js\* (3)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOV 27 1961

TELETYPE UNIT

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

NOV 20 4 48 PM '61  
RECEIVED  
FBI

TRUE COPY

Nov. 14, 1961

[Redacted]

J. Edgar Hoover  
Director of Federal Bureau of Investigation

Dear Mr. Hoover:  
*of the W.C.S. in the U.S.A.*

Our local W. S. C. S. has joined with the National Council of Churches by majority vote. What connection is there with this organization and communism? I've been informed and have heard the National Council of Churches is Communist--is this true? An please instruct me as to what extent it is. I would appreciate your personal views and comments. Other Churches that I know of personally, have pulled away from this organization because of the dangers of becoming infiltrated and associated with Communist front organizations. We have around 30 members in our W. S. C. S. and I will send the names to you if you information would be best sent to them directly. There's a great need for them to know--many are ignorant of the truth, I feel. They need to be awakened, and soon, or we will no longer be free. Please tell me just what the truth is about this matter and it would be effective, I feel, if each member could receive information directly, from your office. I dread to think of the consequences if all these small churches are pulled in to a communist front organization by this type of underhanded dealing.

Most Sincerely yours,

72/

[Redacted Signature]

EX-112

REC-91

100-56869-821

NOV 21 1961

*True copy  
11/17/61  
mm*

*ACK  
11-20-61  
J. J. [unclear]*

*8. J. J.*

7/10/61, 1961

[Redacted]

J. Edgar Hoover  
Director of Federal Bureau of Investigation

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Our local N.S.C.S. has joined with the National Council of Churches, by majority vote. What connection is there with this organization and Communism? I've been informed and have heard the National Council of Churches is Communist. - is this true? And please instruct me as to what extent it is. I would appreciate your personal views and comments. Other Churches that I know of <sup>are</sup> ~~have~~ pulled away from this organization because of the danger of <sup>it being</sup> infiltrated and associated with Communist front organizations.

CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

We have around 30 members in our  
N. S. C. S. and I will send the names  
to you if your information would be  
best sent to them directly. There's  
a great need for them to know -  
many are ignorant of the truth, I feel.  
They need to be awakened, and soon,  
or we will no longer be free.

Please tell me just what the truth  
is about this matter and it would  
be effective, I feel, if each member  
could receive information <sup>directly</sup> from your office.  
I dread to think of the consequences if  
all these small churches are pulled in to  
a communist front organization by this  
type of underhanded dealing.

Most sincerely yours,  
[REDACTED]

November 20, 1961

REC 91 100-50869-920

-102

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 15, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

L. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Nov 21 4 18 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

MAILED 50  
NOV 20 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (4)  
Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism  
Assistant Director William C. Sullivan's speech of 10-19-61  
The Communist Party Line  
Christianity Today Series--(The Communist Menace)

- Olson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

57 NOV 27 1961

*Handwritten notes and signatures*

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten signature*

*Handwritten initials*



**NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles.  
The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**

[REDACTED]  
November 15, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Chief  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Some of us recently in our community, and more particularly in our church, have been concerned about the alleged left wing or communist tendencies of some portions of the program of the National Council of Churches of Christ of America. 11

We are particularly concerned about what appears to be this organization's stand on the admission of Red China to the United Nations, the recognition of Red China by the United States and the abolition of the House Unamerican Activities Committee.

So that we may arrive at an informed conclusion with respect as to whether or not this organization is at all subversively inclined or has had perhaps communists or fellow travelers working in the organization, I would greatly appreciate it if your office could forward to me at the above address any information that you have with respect to this organization.

Yours very truly,  
[REDACTED]

REC-91

100-50864-820

NOV 21 1961

JK

F 26  
11-30-61  
JH:

REC-36/100-50869-817

November 17, 1961

[Redacted]

NOV 17 3 29 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 10 and enclosure have been received.

With respect to your inquiry, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In view of the foregoing, I can assure you that I have never made the statement attributed to me. I have always pointed out that the communists' aim is to penetrate and control all mass-type organizations of our society, including our churches. Fortunately, however, this atheistic menace has not made any substantial penetration into our religious institutions.

Enclosed you will find some material on the general subject of communism you may find pertinent at this time.

NOV 17 1961  
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

- Enclosures (4)
- The Deadly Contest
- What Does The Future Hold?
- Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
- The Communist Party Line

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Malone
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter

1 - Mobile - Enclosures (2)  
ATTENTION SAC: [Redacted] are not identifiable.  
In Bufiles.

Room RVA:lch (4)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT   
28 1961

REC-36

NOV 17 3 28 PM '61

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

RWA



Mr. Tolson  
 Mr. Belmont  
 Mr. Mohr  
 Mr. Callahan  
 Mr. Conrad  
 Mr. DeLoach  
 Mr. Evans  
 Mr. Malone  
 Mr. Rosen  
 Mr. Sullivan  
 Mr. Tavel  
 Mr. Trotter  
 Tele. Room  
 Mr. Ingram  
 Miss Gandy

November 10,

✓

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
 Director Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 Ninth & Pennsylvania  
 Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Enclosed you will find newspaper article entitled  
 "Church Women Hold Meetings - Dauphin Way Methodist."

Since the National Council of Churches has taken  
 such an active part in trying to have the House Un-American  
 activities Committee abolished, I have decided to do some  
 investigating about the National Council of Churches.

The newspaper (Mobile Press Register, Wednesday,  
 November 8, 1961), says that Mrs. Weatherby stated that you  
 had pointed out that "Criticism of the National Council has  
 been made largely by groups that are anti-Communist, but also  
 non-Christian."

Would you please be kind enough to give me your  
 exact statement with regard to National Council.

I am a member of the Board of Stewards of  
 Methodist Church.

Very truly yours,

[Redacted Signature]

EX-115

REC-36

22 NOV 21 1961

EJP/18

~~EXP. PROC.~~

NOV 13 1961

ENCLOSURE

K: 11/17/61  
 RVA: lch

STAFF

# Women's Pages

## Church Women Hold Meetings

### DAUPHIN WAY METHODIST

Mrs. M. E. Weatherby presented a program on "The World Council of Churches" at the general meeting yesterday of the Woman's Society of Christian Service of the Dauphin Way Methodist Church.

The Council will hold its next meeting in New Delhi, India, this month at which time it will search for the real purpose of the church—to know Christ and to make Him known.

This Council was organized in 1948 in Amsterdam, Holland, Mrs. Weatherby said, when 143 churches joined. In 1954 the second meeting was held in Evanston, Ill., with the theme "Jesus, the Light of the World."

"The council," Mrs. Weatherby said, "is now composed of 170 churches in 50 countries and only three churches in America remain outside of the World Council. Even the Russian Orthodox Church sent observers to the last meeting, she said.

Mrs. Weatherby explained that the council "represents a basic unity among the different Protestant and Greek Orthodox churches."

In conclusion, she stated that the National Council of Churches of the United States is composed of 23 unions and 38 million people. "J. Edgar Hoover has pointed out," she said, "that criticism of the National Council has been made largely by groups that are

anti-Communist, but also non-Christian."

The devotion was given by Mrs. J. R. Quinlivan III and luncheon was served to 84 members and guests by the Jimmie Cunningham Circle. Mrs. James A. Erskine gave the invocation.

*Mobile, Ala*

### ASHLAND PL. METHODIST

The booklet "Jesus Christ, the Light of the World," which will be used at the third assembly of the World Council of Churches, was reviewed by Mrs. H. W. Eiser Jr. at the meeting of the Women's Society of Christian Service of Ashland Place Methodist Church.

Other members participating in program were Mesdames Frank Ellis Jr., Ivan Hickson, Earl DuBols and Heron Lord.

Mrs. Travis Reeves concluded the program and worship with the prayer that will be used at the Assembly in New Delhi, India, this month.

Mrs. C. E. Ware, president, gave the invocation at the luncheon, which was served by the Stella Underwood circle.

Mobile Press Register  
Mobile, Alabama  
November 8, 1961

100-50864-817

ENCLOSURE

November 16, 1961

AIRMAIL

*pink*

REC-11

50869-718

EX-112

[REDACTED]

*B. G. ...*  
*Sullivan*

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of November 12, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

L. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 20  
NOV 16 1961  
COMM-FBI

*NOV 18 5 30 PM '61*  
*[Signature]*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*NOV 18 1 35 PM '61*

Enclosures (5) A View of Reality  
 Faith, Hope and Charity - Our Answer to Communism  
 Communism and Democratic Reality  
 The Communist Party Line  
 Christianity Today Series -- (The Communist Menace)  
 NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles.

JH:lc\* (3) *pk*  
MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

64 NOV 24 1961

*new*

THE COPY

November 12, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

During recent months some young men in our town have been calling to our attention the dangers of communism which we all need to know about. It so happens that almost all of them are members of the church which my family and have been members for a number of years.

I am coming to you with a problem which is presenting itself and causing trouble within our church. As you probably know the Methodist church is quite highly organized. Now this group has been very much against anything that is not strictly "local." They feel when we take part in anything outside our local church we are forwarding "socialism" and also that we have "communistic" leaders. Today we were presented literature against the National Council of Churches.

I realize that you have many problems much more important than this but I felt that I must know the truth about this insofar as you are able to tell me. I am a public school teacher, a graduate of Indiana State College at Terre Haute (which is also coming in for its share of criticism) and teach the Senior High School class in our church. We have a son in the Army in Korea and 4 other children, so you see we have a large stake in this country of ours.

I do want to do what is right and to be a good citizen. Could you please tell me or send literature on the status of the Methodist Church & the National Council of Churches in regard to Communism - also what is your attitude toward the Birch Society.

Thank you so much.

Very truly yours,

*Am*

[Redacted signature]

P. S. We need this information badly before Nov. 20, as we have an important meeting on that date at which time this problem is likely to arise.

*Rec 11-16-61  
5-16  
and  
What app  
15/11/61  
11/16*

REC-11

100-50869-018

NOV 15 1961

*9*

██████████  
████████████████████  
November 12, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

During recent months some young men in our town have been calling to our attention the dangers of communism which we all need to know about. It so happens that almost all of them are members of the church which my family and I have been members for a number of years.

I am coming to you with a problem which is presenting itself and causing trouble within our church. As you probably know the Methodist church is quite highly organized. Now this group has been very much against anything that is not strictly "local." They feel when we take part in anything outside our local church we are forwarding "socialism" and also that we have "communist leaders. Today we were presented literature against the National Council of Churches.

ACK  
11-16-61  
JH

REC'D  
NOV 13 11 50 AM '61  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

I realize that you have many problems much more important than this but I felt that I must know the truth about this insofar as you are able to tell me. I am a public school teacher, a graduate of Indiana State College at Terre Haute (which is also coming in for its share of criticism) and teach the Senior High School class in our church. We have a son in the Army in Korea and 4 other children, so you see we have a large stake in this country.

I do want to do what is right and to be a good citizen. Could you please tell me or send literature on the status of the Methodist Church & the National Council of Churches in regard to Communism - also what is your attitude toward the Birch Society.

Thank you so much.

Very truly yours,

( [REDACTED] )

|| P.S. We need this information badly before Nov. 20, as we have an important meeting on that date at which time this problem is likely to arise. DD.

*my*

REC-112  
100-50869-817

November 15, 1961

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Nov 15 12 51 PM '61  
REC'D READING ROOM  
FBI

Your letter of November 7, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated. I also want to thank you for your kind words.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*Handwritten notes:*  
P...  
DCM  
B...

MAILED 20  
NOV 15 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (4)  
October 1, 1961, LEB Introduction  
The Deadly Contest  
Communist Activities and Democratic Reality  
The Communist Party Line

RECEIVED DIRECTOR  
DCL:ic  
(3) 061  
MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*Handwritten signature:*  
V. K. ...

TRUE COPY



Nov. 7, 1961.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
F.B.I.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover: When I learn of the vast influence and extensive connections of the NCCC I simply shudder. I would give the world if you would give us some information about The National Council of Churches. I have, as most all honest people do, greatest confidence in you.

Sincerely

/s/



REC-43

100-50869-817

NOV 16 1961

*[Handwritten signature]*

*1 True copy  
11-14-61  
K*

*AJ  
11-15-61  
CCL:K*

*and*



[REDACTED]

Nov. 7, 1961.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
F. B. I.

Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover: When I learn of the vast influence and extensive connections of the NCC. I simply shudder. I would give the world if you would give me some information about the National Council of Churches. I have, as most all honest people do, greatest confidence in you.

Sincerely  
CORRESPONDENCE

[REDACTED]

AK  
11-15-61  
DCL:ke

mk

\*Committee of Christian Laymen  
P.O. Box 285  
Woodland Hills, California  
November 6, 1961

*Emf 8-*  
*(Handwritten initials)*

Francis Walter, Chairman  
House Un-American Activities Committee  
House Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: *NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA*

Our Committee (Committee of Christian Laymen) was organized for the purpose of bringing about a change in policies of the National Council of Churches of Christ. Our group is opposed to the idea of the National Council making pronouncements on political and economic matters in the name of 39,000,000 Protestants. Enclosed are copies of two full page advertisements which set out our views.

In doing our research we have come across some things which to us are quite disturbing:

1. R. W. Moon (active in the N.C.C.) and a Methodist minister at Fresno, made a speech before the Fifth Assembly of N.C.C. (Dec. 4, 1960) condemning the film, "Operation Abolition", and contending it was all a lie.
2. Christian Century Magazine, issue of Jan. 4, 1961, had an article, "Operation Abolition" by R. W. Moon, repeating what he said before the N.C.C. assembly. In the same issue was an editorial, "Abolish N.U.A.C."
3. The article by R. W. Moon and the editorial were reprinted on one page (front and back) by Christian Century. The Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights, Suite 811, 189 West Madison St., Chicago 2, Illinois, apparently paid for and distributed these reprints through churches and other avenues. We have a copy in our possession.
4. A letter dated January 24, 1961, on the letterhead of Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights, indicates that it is a new organization whose primary purpose is to abolish the House Un-American Activities Committee. We have a photostat of this letter in our possession.

*copy - ack  
no rec -  
JH*

*763*

REC-80 LW 100-50869-811  
EX 113  
NOV 14 1961  
CORRESPONDENCE

- 146
5. Richard L. Criley and Leon Katzen, both previously identified as Communists by your Committee, are listed on the letterhead of Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights.
  6. We have in our possession the Christian Century reprints, furnished by Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights and carrying their imprints, which in turn were mailed out by local churches to their members.
  7. Did Christian Century knowingly enter into an arrangement with Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights whereby this Committee was the principal purchaser of these reprints, which it then in turn furnished free to local churches for redistribution?
  8. We note that Christian Century is owned by the Christian Century Foundation, among whose trustees are some of the key people of the National Council of Churches (March 1, 1961 issue of Christian Century).
  9. Almost every issue of Christian Century during the Calendar Year 1961 has articles or items in regard to "Operation Abolition" or the necessity for getting rid of the House Un-American Activities Committee, including suggestions for opposing the showing of the film or heckling where shown.
  10. The Christian Century, reflecting National Council of Churches attitude, is either for or against F.B.I. director J. Edgar Hoover, depending upon how it best serves their purpose.
    - (a) Christian Century, issue of April 5, 1961, page 414, "F.B.I. Inspector Defends Protestant Clergy" uses this sarcasm: "Although we are happy to learn that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is capable of such insight, we felt no compulsion to rush this statement into print."
    - (b) Yet Eugene Carson Blake in literature distributed by local churches quotes freely from F.B.I. Chief Inspector William C. Sullivan to indicate that attacks upon the National Council of Churches are not justified. Many people reading this material assume that Mr. Sullivan has been sent out by Mr. J. Edgar Hoover to defend the National Council of Churches. Our Committee has had this with which to contend.

The more research that our Committee has done, the more we become convinced that the National Council of Churches has its own axe to grind in opposing, with every means at its command, the House Un-American Activities Committee and to a somewhat lesser degree the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Our Committee can not help but feel, after considerable study, that the National Council of Churches as now organized and operated is a menace to both Church and State. We regret that they were not thoroughly investigated by your Committee at the time of the Air Force Manual episode.

Sincerely,

Committee of Christian Laymen  
P.O. Box 285  
Woodland Hills, California

Secretary.



C/c to Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Congressman Walter Judd

November 14, 1961

100-50869-815

REC-17

EX-102

[Redacted]

Nov 14 4 12 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 4 has been received, and the thought prompting you to write is appreciated.

With respect to your inquiry, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In view of the foregoing, I can assure you that I have not made any statement along the lines you mentioned in your communication.

Enclosed you will find some material on the general subject of communism which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 20  
NOV 14 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Enclosures (5)
- What Does the Future Hold?
- The Deadly Contest
- 4-61 LEB Introduction
- Internal Security statement 4-17-61
- The Communist Party Line

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

RVA:lcw (3)  
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

57 NOV 20 1961

edm

Handwritten notes and signatures, including "223 bl.", "RVA", and "27/11/61".

Mr. Belmont  
 Mr. Mohr  
 Mr. Callahan  
 Mr. Conrad  
 Mr. Evans  
 Mr. Malone  
 Mr. Rosen  
 Mr. Sullivan  
 Mr. Tavel  
 Mr. Trotter  
 Mr. Tele. Room  
 Mr. Ingram  
 Miss Gandy

November 4, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

A short while back, a friend of mine had read to her by her minister a statement which he said was made by you. In this statement you were to have stated the FBI had made a complete investigation of the National Council of Churches and found no communist influence whatsoever.

I would appreciate knowing if you made such a statement, and if so when and where so that in further conversations I might quote you accurately on this subject.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted address]

1961 NOV 9 1961

REC-11 100-50869-815  
 NOV 8 1961

ack 11-14-61  
 ml RVA/lw

x-104

NOV 2 10 51 AM '61  
 F. B. I.  
 RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

NOV 2 1 16 PM '61  
 FBI  
 REC'D

CORRESPONDENCE

ml

*my*

REC-100-50869-814

November 6, 1961

EX 104

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

REC'D-READING ROOM  
F B I  
Nov 6 12 21 PM '61

Your letter of October 31, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 21  
NOV 6 - 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures 2  
The Deadly Contest  
Communist Party, USA, (Soviet Affiliates)  
The Communist Party Line - B. I.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

SAW:lc\* (3)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

(NOTE continued next page)

58 NOV 14 1961

5110



(NOTE continued)

The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)

The World Council of Churches is allegedly composed of most of the Christian churches throughout the world except the Roman Catholic Church and certain small sects. Bufiles contain no identifiable information of a derogatory nature concerning this organization. Many inquiries have been received regarding communist infiltration of this organization. (100-231551)



TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
10-31-61

J. Edgar Hoover  
Wash. D. C.

Dear Sir;

There has been a great of reference to communistic ideas in connection with the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches. I am interested in material in regard to this - Our church people seem to be so soft on this idea and ready to accept an organization that is endorsed by the church-----

Please send me any free information on the above.

Thank you for your many years of work, for a better nation and world-----

Sincerely,

/s/ [REDACTED]

REC-13 100-50869-919

NOV 7 1961

1 true copy

11-2-61

EX 104

Handwritten notes at bottom left

Handwritten notes at bottom right

[REDACTED]

10-31-61

J. Edgar Hoover  
Wash. D.C.

Dear Sir;

There has been a great deal of reference to Communist ideas in connection with the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches. I am interested in material in regard to this. Our church seems to be so soft on this idea + ready to accept an organization that is endorsed by the church -

Please send me any free information on the above.

Thank you for your many years of work for a better nation and world.

REC'D BY [unclear] CORRESPONDENT

[REDACTED]

11-6-61

REC-49/00-50869-813

November 6, 1961

EX 101

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of October 31, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest, together with the stamped self-addressed envelope you sent.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 80  
NOV 6 - 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Enclosures (5)
- A View of Reality
- The Deadly Contest
- Communist Illusion & Democratic Reality
- The Communist Party Line
- Correspondent's Enclosure

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOV 13 1961  
SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

RVA:is (3)

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

NOV 6 10 29 AM '61

Handwritten notes and stamps including "NOV 8 11 30 AM '61", "REC'D READING ROOM", and initials "RVA".



**NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.  
The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**

[REDACTED]

October 31, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I am hearing and reading more and more about communists and communistic trends in the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and the World Council of Churches in the United States.

Any material or information you could supply me on this subject would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

P.S. I am enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope.

*arb*  
*11-6-61*  
*RVA:pe*  
*mm*

*C*

REC-49 100-50869-91  
NOV 1 15 22 PM '61  
EX 104 FBI  
REC'D COMM & IDENT

NOV 7 1961

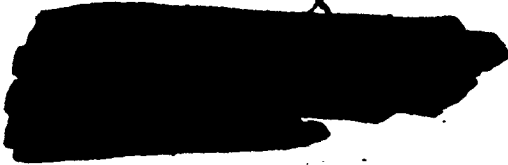
CORRESPONDENCE

November 3, 1961

EX-105

REC-43

100-50869-812



Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter of October 27, 1961.

While I would like to be of service, the FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not furnish comments or evaluations concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. Consequently, I am unable to be of assistance in connection with your inquiry, although I can advise you that the organization you mentioned has never been the subject of investigation by this Bureau.

Enclosed is some material which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*J. Edgar Hoover*

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

MAILED 20  
NOV - 3 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)  
Organizations Designated Under Executive Order No. 10450  
4-17-61 Internal Security Statement  
The Communist Party, USA--9-61 "Social Order"  
The Communist Party Line  
The Christianity Today Series--The Communist Menace

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_


NOTE: Bufiles contain no identifiable derogatory information regarding correspondent. The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

CJH:rap (3)

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

*[Handwritten initials]*



critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)

October 27, 1961

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Ingram	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am anxious to receive a statement from you concerning your own evaluation of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. I am sure you are aware that you are often quoted as saying that the organization is Communist-ridden.

You undoubtedly have had many such inquiries. If something has been prepared by your office which will make unnecessary a personal reply, please forward it. I will be deeply grateful.

Very sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

DS:gh

EX-105

REC-43

100-50869-712

NOV 6 1961

ack 11-3-61  
and CJH/lin rap

CORRESPONDENCE

EXP. PROC.

NOV 4 1961



October 26, 1961

REG-13 100-50869-11

*Handwritten signatures and initials*

REC'D HEADQUARTERS  
OCT 27 10 02 AM '61

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of October 21, 1961, with enclosures has been received, and the interest prompting you to communicate with me is appreciated.

With respect to your comments, I am thoroughly familiar with Assistant Director William C. Sullivan's presentation in Dallas. I know it contained hard-hitting statements against communism in all its aspects, including the field of religion, and it made the very pertinent point that this menace must be met by all our citizens in the most effective and rational manner possible. He pointed out that our churches have remained a continuing target in the over-all Communist program of endeavoring to infiltrate our established institutions, and we must remain alert to such efforts to subvert our way of life.

It is vitally essential that all of us be certain of the facts in opposing this conspiracy since the erroneous imputation of communism aids its cause by dividing and weakening our people when they need to be united and strong in order to defeat it.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover  
E. A. Tamm  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 20  
OCT 27 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Malone
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Ingram
- Gandy

1 - Mr. Sullivan - Enclosure

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent, and no information of a derogatory nature identifiable with the "Woman's Society of Christian Service." This response discussed with Mr. Sullivan.

MAIL ROOM [ ] TELETYPE UNIT [ ]

JCF:elt (5)

*Handwritten signatures and initials*

October 21, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover  
United States Department of Justice  
FBI  
Washington, 25, D.C

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Re: Number of ministers unwittingly  
aiding the Communist movement

I surely do not understand the FBI assistant making the statement at Dallas, Texas, Thursday to the effect that the proportion who unwittingly help the Communist movement is exceedingly small.--see clipping.

How can he say that, when the National Council of Churches is battling us on every side, and is following so closely many of the points in the Communist line? The ministers in the National Council have much influence, I think, and other ministers would try to carry out as many of their recommendations as possible, unless they had already been made aware of the problem. Our experience here is that it must be the unusual minister who will stand against the National Council, and who will study this material along with the Anti-Communists. I give a few examples: (as basis for these opinions)

1. The St. Marks Vestry Committee report of the National Council of Churches, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Shreveport, Louisiana. On page 2 is the sentence: "In summation, we conclude with firm conviction and only after long study and prayer, that the National Council of Churches as it is presently constituted and operated, is a harmful and highly dangerous institution."

2. Articles written by clergy who wittingly or unwittingly are aiding the Communist movement go out to the ministers and lay people in every state of this nation, and elsewhere, I suppose. On page 3 of a little Methodist pamphlet called "Concern", is an article by The Reverend Robert W. Moon, pastor of the First Methodist church, Fresno, California, chairman of the Policy and Statement committee of the Division of Peace and World Order. The title of the article is: "Operation Abolition"--an honest film? and the first sentence says: "A dangerous piece of propaganda is being distributed throughout the country in the form of a movie called 'Operation Abolition.'" At the bottom of the same page is the sentence: "It is not an honest movie." And on page 4 is the section of the article entitled "What can you do", with the following suggestion: "2) If you hear that an organization is planning to show the movie, go to the leader and tell him the facts, trying to persuade him not to show the film." I was sent this magazine by the chairman of the Spokane District of the Woman's Society of Christian Service. Her letter, along the same line, I am enclosing. (Please return.) I suppose most of the other district chairmen of the same Methodist women's group sent out similar letters to women throughout the United States.

Handwritten notes: "Return to... retained"

REC-13 100-50867-211  
17 1961

3. Many ministers are calling the Anti-Communists "super-patriots". I quote from The Congregational Way, issue for May, 1961, which gives a report of the work of Dr. Julian J. Keiser at the five Christian Social Action Workshops held in the Washington Conference in March of 1961: "Dr. Keiser gave special attention at each of the Workshops to the threat of Communism, and the Church's responsibility. 'Such well organized groups as the John Birch Society, Pro-America, the Freedom Clubs...the House Un-American Activities Committee and other "super-patriotic" groups tends to exaggerate the threat of internal Communism to the American Way of life,' said Dr. Keiser."

4. The minister of the Kellogg church I still attend told me this summer, in reference to "Operation Abolition": "How can you believe it is good? It is complete fabrication."

5. We see our Sunday School material, as sponsored by our church authorities (I presume ministers are included in this group), getting farther and farther away from actual Bible study. This is a whole subject in itself--but I will give one example. For 3 months last year my 3rd grade son and my 4th grade granddaughter (in separate classes, about 20 or 25 children total) studied the Lord's Prayer at about the rate of one line per Sunday; and the following 3 months studied the following persons at about the rate of 2 Sundays for each person listed: St. Francis of Assisi; Michael Pupin; George Washington Carver; Helen Keller; Marie Curie; and Jane Adams. All good people and good material, yes. But the point is that for 6 months these children had very few actual Bible stories. This is from the Group Graded Pilgrim Press material of the Congregational Church, and is being revised, I believe. But we aren't happy with the revised book either. They seem to have less Bible stories than this. The quarterly containing this material is called "Wonders of God", and was used during April, May and June. The quarterly called "The Lord's Prayer" preceded "Wonders of God", and was used during January, February and March.

For the above reasons and more, I feel I must disagree with Mr. Sullivan's position as stated in the paper, at least. I think the number of ministers, and thereby the proportion of ministers who at least "unwittingly aided the Communist movement" must be much larger than the phrase "exceedingly small" would indicate. Would you have time to give us your opinion of this matter?

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

(Enclosure)

<sup>p. 2</sup>  
**Few Ministers  
Said Red-Tinged**

DALLAS, Tex. (AP)—The Communist party has never substantially infiltrated the American clergy, says the No. 3 man of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

There can be no doubt as to the loyalty of the overwhelming majority of the clergy to our nation," William C. Sullivan, assistant director of the FBI, told a meeting at the Highland Park Methodist Church Thursday night.

Matched against the 300,000 ordained clergymen in the United States, the proportion who willingly or unwittingly sided the Communist movement is exceedingly small, he said.

*Spokane Wash.  
Chronicle  
Oct. 20, 1961*

100-50869-811

ENCLOSURE

former 782  
under cover agent  
No. 10  
very accurate  
TV - No. 10  
10:30  
E. P. ...



WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE  
Edwall, Washington  
February 23, 1962

Dear Secretary:

Perhaps each of you is curious to know what the emphases were that I found throughout the District in the last reports.

I have found a wonderful response to the Citizenship Brunches, as well as splendid work being performed in behalf of the United Nations. Also, the emphases on politics, women's participation in coffee hours meeting with candidates, women working on local issues were all outstanding.

There are 39 societies in our District. I have received 26 reports. I am most interested to know how to influence societies to create this office, and also, how to help societies in smaller areas really understand the function of the Secretary of Christian Social Relations. I am available always to locate information you may need.

Again, I can only say that in addition to the Guide, The Handbook, one must rely on the magazine, "The Methodist Woman". This magazine really helps this line of work become alive. The ACTIVITIES booklet sent to each Secretary is also a tool to review.

Mrs. Toebes, Conference Secretary of C.S.R., is most hopeful that we learn how to use "Seminars in Miniature" as suggested on page 3 in the ACTIVITIES booklet. Please give this some thought to use in cooperation with the commission in the local church.

Now for the present, the concern of each C.S.R. Secretary in our state is now on legislation in the State Capitol. I have recently been to Olympia and know we cannot underestimate forces that wish to control our legislation.

But what concerns me more is the hysteria that is being created by two films being shown throughout the State.

One is OPERATION ABOLITION and the other is COMMUNISM ON THE MAP.

These films are truly not representative of the subject each presents. Now to document this, our National Board of the church's Commission on Christian Social Concerns publishes a magazine, CONCERN, January 15, 1962 describes OPERATION ABOLITION for exactly what it is. Please write for this issue if your pastor or Commission Chairman does not have it. I have written for reprints. This article is completely documented, which is what one should always look for to get reliable information. I have written to CONCERN also for background on the other film.

Leaders must become more aware of the world-wide mission of the church in the face of communism. Our belief, our spirit is in God and Jesus Christ. This is power, intelligence, love, compassion, truth and life. We cannot direct ourselves when consumed by hysteria, fear and reactionary opinion. In the case of the 92 professors of the University of Washington signing a petition to prohibit the showing of the film, COMMUNISM ON THE MAP, criticism of their actions points out that academic freedom may again be in jeopardy as it was in the era of McCarthyism.

If you are unable to present this to your society, I will be willing to do so. We must uphold the principals of the Methodist Church and its SOCIAL CREED.

April 28th will be the Annual District meeting. It is my hope we may have a report from women of our District attending the national convention in Wash. D.C. in April of the Board Christian Social Concerns. This is a mandatory Commission in each church now.

In all the areas there are to think about, there is surely some phase of C.S.R. that each society may have one meeting, even one buzz session about. Your work in the District brings a rich reward; the effort you give is a timeless gift, and you may have the knowledge that your efforts, added to all the others in like work are doing many things to help people everywhere to live better, fuller lives.

There is a new report...  
100-508169-...  
You may get it from Sec. of Promotion, Dist. Sec. C.S.R.  
[Redacted]

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI  
NOV 7 4 26 PM '61

November 2, 1961

EX 104  
EG-52/00-50869-810

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated October 27, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and I appreciate the interest prompting you to write.

The film, "Operation Abolition," is sponsored and distributed by the United States House of Representatives Committee on Un-American Activities and this Bureau had no connection with its preparation. Therefore, as a matter of policy, I cannot make any comments concerning it and it is suggested you may desire to contact the Committee located in Room 225, Old House Office Building, Washington 25, D. C.

In connection with your other inquiries, the FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer that our files do or do not contain information of the type which would answer your questions.

The clergymen of America today stand on the front lines of defense against the atheistic menace of communism and no group has a more key role in protecting our religious and national heritage. It is my firm belief that a broad knowledge of the objectives and operations of this subversive conspiracy is essential to help to avoid the danger of confusing communism with legitimate dissent. You may desire to refer to my book, "Masters of Deceit," which was written as a basic primer on this subject. It should be available to you at your local library and bookstores.

Enclosed is some literature you may care to read.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 80  
NOV 2 1961  
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

66 NOV 9 1961

Enclosures (5)  TELETYPE UNIT

Enclosures and  
(Note on next page)

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

[REDACTED]

**(Note)**

**Enclosures:**

**Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality**

**Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism**

**The Communist Party Line**

**Three-Part Series from Christianity Today - The Communist Menace**

**One Nation's Response To Communism**

**NOTE: In view of the common name of correspondent, it was not possible to effectively search through Bufiles.**

**The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC.**



October 27, 1961

8-  
dms

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir;

Recently I had the opportunity to attend a civic program where the film "Operation Abolition" was shown and communism in general was discussed. Although I am unable to remember where, it occurs to me that I have read something concerning the above mentioned film to the effect that it is questionable. At this same meeting a list of publications and materials was made available to those who were interested and that list is enclosed.

While I affirm the desired results of combating communism, at the same time, I want to know if my information is official and confirmed by the government under which I am proud to live and share in. **EX 104** **REC-52 100-50869-8/0**

I would also like the government's official attitude toward "The National Council of Churches of Christ USA". If there is any question or information of a factual nature relative to this organization, I would certainly be interested in that. **NOV 3 1961**

*Handwritten notes:*  
100-50869-8/0  
EX 104

It also seems to me that the same organization which puts forth the above mentioned film certainly puts forth dangerous ground in putting forth such questionable materials as listed in Section 87, statement four (concerning Judge **W. G. ...** and The United Nations).

ENCLOSURE

CORRESPONDENCE



[REDACTED]

8-  
dud

Page Two

Certainly communism is a threat to our freedom and our existence. It seems that the best way to combat it is to have the best information. In fact, it would not surprise me to discover that some of the references listed on the enclosed sheet ~~is~~ distributed by Communist front organizations. I want to know and I have a definite responsibility as a minister and as an American to combat communism not with rabid conservatism, propaganda, or misguided facts, but with the truth.

Again let me say that I believe the party responsible for the enclosed publication and the showing of the film was earnest and sincere. At the same time, neither are criteria for truth.

I would appreciate any information that you could forward. I am intending to be active in civic affairs and I note a shocking ignorance about communism in our community. This asking on my part is quite an undertaking for a department of government already so heavily burdened, but I would indeed be grateful for all and any assistance in this matter.

In Freedom's Cause

[REDACTED]

10/11/51  
10/11/51

WRITE FOR THESE SAMPLE PUBLICATIONS.

1. Life
1. Life Lines, Washington 3, D. C.
2. Christian Educational Association, Union, New Jersey
3. Christian Beacon, Collingswood, N. C.
4. Capsule News, 919 18th St. N. W., Washington 6, D. C.
5. American Mercury, 250 W. 57th St. New York, 19, New York
6. Congress of Freedom, 1330 Turner Blvd. Omaha, 5, Nebr.
7. Dan Smoot Report, Box 9611 Lakewood Station, Dallas 14, Tex.
8. The Cross and the Flag, Box 27895, Los Angeles 27, Calif.
9. Allen-Bradley Company, Milwaukee, Wis. (Ask for publications exposing communism.)

THE FOLLOWING ARE AVAILABLE FOR A SMALL FEE.

1. Back from the Dead - National Education Program, Searcy, Ark. 25¢
2. The Disease of Communism. Send stamped addressed envelope to W. P. Strube, Box 6422, Houston 6, Texas.
3. Wanted A Saviour For America. Search the Scriptures, Box 161 Hellflower, Mo. (10¢)
4. Four wonderful exposes for ten (10¢) The Reds Are Back in Hollywood., The Truth about the United Nations., Wanted Earl Warren for Impeachment., and Documentary Proof that The United Nations is a Planned Death-Trap for the U. S. Order from The Cinema Educational Guild, P. O. Box 46205, Cole Branch Hollywood 46, Calif.
5. The Suppressed Report. Education Information, Box 231, Fullerton, California. (15¢)
6. How Red is the National Council of Churches? The American Council of Laymen, Madison 1, Wis. (10¢)
7. Sound Off Records By Dr. Oliver. \$3.00, 33 1/3 R. P. M. Christian Educational Association, Union, N. J.
8. Circuit Riders, Inc. 110 Government Place, Cincinnati 2, O. Compilation of Public Records, 6000 Educators Vol. 1, \$5.00 2109 Methodist Ministers \$1.00, 1411 Protestant Episcopal Rectors \$2.00, 614 Presbyterian Church U.S.A. Clergymen \$2.00 Recognize Red China? (An expose of the National Council of Churches) \$1.00

FREE:

1. Kiamichi, News, Tahleah, Oklahoma
2. Write to Hon. Francis E. Walter, Chairman of House Committee on Un-American Activities, Old Office Bldg. Wash. 25, D. C. for free publications concerning communist infiltration in the United States.
3. Write to J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the F. B. I. Wash. D. C.
4. Write to Mr. Lowell, Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, New Senate Office Bldg. Wash. D. C.

Listen to these Broadcasts. W. P. N. C. Plymouth, N. C.  
20th Century Reformation Hour. Mon. thru Fri. 10:00 A. M.  
Christian Crusade Sunday, 10:00 A. M.  
Dr. Howard Kershner Fridays 9:15 A. M.  
R. K. Scott (America's Future) Monday 9:15 A. M.  
W. P. N. C. Plymouth N. C.  
1470 KC on your A. M. Radio.

Buy.

1. The Big Decision. \$1.00
2. A Business Man looks at Communism. 25¢
3. Communist America Must It Be. \$1.00  
These can be purchased from the Redstone Freedom Academy  
c/o Roswell Cooper, R. 1. Pantego, N. C.
4. Brainwashed, Edward Hunter
5. Masters of Deceit, J. Edgar Hoover

RA REC-65

100-50869-80

November 2, 1961

4-109

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]:

Your letter of October 28, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

With respect to your discussion, it is a pleasure to clarify my position on the subject of communism and religion. In my book, "Masters of Deceit," I pointed out that it is a continuing program of the Communist Party to attempt infiltration of every part of our society, including religion. This is still true today. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations. I would like to emphasize, however, that churches will continue to be important targets in the over-all subversive plan of endeavoring to control our established institutions. Patriotic Americans must continue to take a stand against communism and combat it wherever possible. This opposition to communism must be careful, constructive and positive, and it must be kept within the due process of law.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 82  
NOV 3 - 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (5)

4-17-61 Internal Security Statement

Faith in God - Our Answer to Communism

The Communist Party Line


Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion

Christianity Today Series - The Communist Menace

EF T:sh (3) See NOTE next page.

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

NOV 13 1961

 11-2-61

**NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**

Oct. 28, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In our church recently, we have had two discussions on communism and the National Council of Churches. I am afraid that those of us who question the pronouncements of the N.C.C. did not come out so well. I believe that we lacked proper documentation in our arguments that the churches have been and will be further used in the Communist Conspiracy.

Since you, as Director of the F.B.I., still hold the highest esteem of the vast majority of the American citizens, I wondered if you could furnish information which would prove helpful in arriving at the right answers.

As a patriotic american, I am concerned about the utopian dream of "One World" that the church seems to be advocating. I try to be christian but I feel that I must still be true to the United States as my country.

I will look forward to whatever information you may be able to send me.

Sincerely,

/s/ [Redacted Signature]

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EX-105

REC-65

100-50869-507

NOV 6 1961

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Oct. 28, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In our Church recently, we have had two discussions on Communism and the National Council of Churches. I am afraid that those of us who question the pronouncements of the N. C. C. did not come out so well. I believe that we lacked proper documentation in our arguments that the churches have been and will be further used in the Communist

Conspiracy

11-2-61  
Ack: SA  
E.D.J.: SA  
mm  
11-1-61

31 10 54 AM. CORRESPONDENCE

Since you as Director of the F. B. I. still hold the highest

esteem of the vast majority of the American citizens, I wondered if you could furnish information which would prove helpful in arriving at the right answers.

As a patriotic American, I am concerned about the utopian dream of "One World" that the Church seems to be advocating. I try to be a Christian but I feel that I must still be true to the United States as my country.

I will look forward to whatever information you may be able to send me.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

REC-73 100-50869-808 November 2, 1961

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I received your letter of October 26, and I am glad to know that you enjoy reading the material previously furnished you by this Bureau. Please accept my thanks for the kind sentiments expressed in your communication. It is my hope that our future activities will merit your continued support and approval.

In response to your inquiry, we have no material available for distribution concerning the group you mentioned. In this connection, I would like to point out that it is a continuing program of the Communist Party to attempt infiltration of every part of our society, including religion. This is still true today. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations. Churches, however, will continue to be important targets in the over-all subversive plan of endeavoring to control our established institutions, and we must remain alert to any attempts to replace our national traditions with the atheistic philosophy of communism.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 22  
NOV 2 - 1961  
COMM-FBI

1 - Seattle - Enclosure

NOTE: [REDACTED] is on the Special Correspondents' List. On 10-3-61 [REDACTED] furnished him with 11 reprints dealing with 'Communism' at the request of [REDACTED] who is on the Special Correspondents' List.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JRS:nlb

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
F. B. I.

NOTE continued on next page

NOV 8 1961  
MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

Nov 2 3 22 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI





November 2, 1961

**NOTE:** The National Council of Churches of Christ has, among its membership, the leading Protestant church leaders in the country. The group has not been the subject of an investigation by the Bureau.

NOV 3 8 20 AM '61  
FBI - WASH DC  
REC'D - COMM. DIV.

[REDACTED]

October 26, 1961

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Conrad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Evans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tavel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Ingram	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

esp  
[REDACTED]

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have received the material sent to me at the request of [REDACTED] along with your nice letter. I am in the process of reading and studying this material with a great deal of interest. May I thank you for sending this to me.

Do you have any material concerning the National Council of Churches of <sup>of CHRISTIAN AMERICA</sup> I find in several churches, and my own personally, that there seems to be an extremely "liberal" viewpoint and a talk of World Court for us, etc. I have heard "purely rumors" that certain elements of the National Council of Churches have been guilty of some Red leanings. Can you lend any facts to me on this matter. It would be very much appreciated. I don't like rumors, I want to be factual. Again, may I express my appreciation to you for sending me the material and also for the wonderful job you have done for our country.

Respectfully yours,

[REDACTED]

JMS:jms

cc: [REDACTED]

100-50869-808

NOV 30 1961

EX 113

CORRESPONDENCE

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11-1-61  
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11-2-61

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1 day

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NOV 20 1961

REC-69 100-50869-807

November 2, 1961

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated October 26, 1961, with enclosure, has been received.

In response to your inquiry, the FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. Please do not infer that our records do or do not contain data pertaining to the subject of your inquiry.

In accordance with the above policy, this Bureau has not prepared for distribution lists of the type you requested. Enclosed is a copy of a list of organizations prepared by the Department of Justice pursuant to Executive Order 10450. I regret I am unable to recommend sources where the other data can be obtained.

Enclosed are some publications concerning communism, one of which may be the item to which you referred. I am also returning the item you sent.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 51  
NOV 3 - 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (6)

Correspondent's enclosure: pamphlet, "Assurance Against Communism"

AG List, Under Executive Order No. 10450.

The Communist Party Line The Communist Party, USA ("Social Order")

Communist Illusion & Democratic Reality

One Nation's Response to  
Communism

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT


JH:car (3) (See note next page)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOV 9 1961

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

Nov 2 5 37 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI



**NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles. There is no way to identify the publication to which he refers and a general selection is being sent. "The Communist Party Line" received wide publicity but was not printed until after September 23, 1961. Correspondent could be in error with regard to the date he mentions. His enclosure was literature of Dr. Fred Schwartz.**

**SPEED LETTER**

TO J. Edgar Hoover

FROM [REDACTED]

F. B. I.

Washington D. C.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT Your approved and screened lists of Pro-Commie Organizations and lists of GOOD Anti-Commie Groups.

**MESSAGE**

DATE October 26, 1961

In the event your office does not have above subject matter: please advise where I could write to obtain same.

On September 21, 1961 on a local TV channel a new booklet available thru or from your office (Chan. 13 - L.A., Calif.) was mentioned. I did not hear the title nor did I hear any data on procuring same: If you know of what I speak here, please mail a copy.

Please advise. Thank You.

SIGNED [REDACTED]

What is your opinion of the National Council of Churches as they are operating in the Country today ???

REPLY

DATE 11 1961

REC-69 100-50469-807

NOV 6 1961

ENCLOSURE

[REDACTED] 11/2/61

SIGNED [Signature]

October 27, 1961

REC-25 100-50869-806

EX 105 [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated October 23, 1961, has been received, and I appreciate the interest prompting you to write.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer that we do or do not have data in our files of the type that would answer your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature about communism you may care to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

FBI READING ROOM  
OCT 27 1 40 PM '61

MAILED 20  
OCT 27 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)

- Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism
- What You Can Do To Fight Communism
- The Communist Party Line
- Three-Part Series from Christianity Today - The Communist Menace
- One Nation's Response To Communism

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

8 NOV 1 1961

NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles. The Lamp of Lighter's Study Group is an anticommunistic group affiliated with the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade, headed by professor Fred Schwartz.


JH:lm1 (3) (Note continued on next page)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT



(Note continued)

The National Council of Churches of Christ includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council without access to factual data to support their allegations, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the National Council of the Churches of Christ. (100-50869)



TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Oct. 23, 1961

Mr. Edgar J. Hoover,  
Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

For the past two years I have been hearing repeated accusations that The National Council of Churches is a communist inspired group. These accusations are coming from a small group of citizens in this community who call them selves "The Lamplighters Study Group." Their avowed purpose, so they claim, is to study and combat Communism. When they first were organized it seemed that their study was conducted in a quiet, objective manner, but as time goes on it seems that every motive, every concept, every idea comes under their suspicion. They are constantly sending out printed materials naming many of our fore-most public servants, as well as our church leaders as Communists.

There may be some ministers of the gospel in this vast land of ours with communistic learnings. But I cannot believe, unless told by the proper authorities, that the National Council of Churches has, "Allied her self with communist fronts and advocated ideologies directly opposed to our free way of life and Republican form of government." As Charged by Dr. Charles S. Poling on page 2 of a Lamplighter's Study pamphlet,

"An Expanded Statement  
by Dr. Charles S. Poling, D. D. Retired  
United Presbyterian Church, U. S. A."

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Dr. Poling further claims, on the same page, "many leaders of the National Council have been listed by the House Committee on Un-American Activities as being members of a communist front or of having been members of a Communist front." I have written this committee asking if these accusations are true. I would like also to ask you if your branch of our government has any factual evidence that will substantiate these accusations? I feel strongly that American citizens are entitled to the truth in regard to this question.

[

100-50869-426

20-26-11-2  
10-27-61  
J.H. [unclear]

REC-26

Very truly yours OCT 30 1961

EX 10

[REDACTED]

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CORRESPONDENCE



Oct. 23, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

For the past two years I have been hearing repeated accusations that the National Council of Churches is a Communist inspired group. These accusations are coming from a small group of citizens in this Communist who call themselves "The Lamp Lighter's Study Group." Their avowed purpose as they claim, is to study and combat Communism. When they first were organized it seemed that their study was conducted in a quiet, objective manner, but as time goes on it seems that every motive, every concept, every idea comes under their suspicion. They are constantly sending out printed materials naming many of our foremost public servants, as well as our church leaders, as Communists.

There may be some ministers of the gospel in this vast land of ours with Communist leanings. But I cannot believe, unless told by the proper authorities, that the National Council of Churches has, "allied her self with Communist fronts and advocated ideologies directly opposed to our free way of life and Republican form of government." as charged by Dr. Charles D. Poling on page 2 of a Lamp Lighter's Study Pamphlet,

"An Expanded Statement  
by Dr. Charles D. Poling, D. D. Retired,  
United Presbyterian Church, U. S. A."

Dr. Poling further claims, on the same page, "Many leaders of the National Council have been listed by the House Committee on Un-American Activities as being members of a Communist front or of having been members of a Communist front." I have written this committee asking if these accusations are true. I would like also to ask you if your branch of our government has any factual evidence that will substantiate these accusations? I feel strongly that American citizens are entitled to the truth in regard to this question.

Very truly yours

[Redacted signature]

10-26-61  
10-27-61  
[Handwritten notes]

REC 52 10 08 PM '61

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REC'D - COMM & TOURS

CORRESPONDENCE

EX-113 REC-4

100-50869-80

October 25, 1961



Dear [redacted]

Your letter dated October 18, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and I appreciate the interest prompting you to write.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. Also, information in our records must be maintained as confidential through a regulation of the Department of Justice. Please do not infer that we do or do not have data in our files of the type which would answer your inquiries.

However, I would like to point out that literature from one of the organizations you mentioned has been brought to the attention of this Bureau in the past. One of the pamphlets contains a statement that data contained therein is documented in the files of certain Government investigating agencies. I would like to assure you that the Cinema Educational Guild, Inc., and its national director, Myron C. Fagan, have never had access to the files of the FBI.

Since the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is affiliated with the United Nations and inquiries concerning it may be of interest to the Department of State, I have taken the liberty of furnishing a copy of your letter to that Department.

Enclosed is some literature about communism, together with the pamphlet you sent.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

INDEXED NO  
OCT 26 1961  
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (5)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

64 OCT 26 1961 (3)

Oct 25 5 40 PM '61  
RECEIVED ROOM

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
W. J. [unclear]  
[unclear]  
[unclear]  
[unclear]  
[unclear]  
[unclear]

*Handwritten initials:*  
J. W.

[REDACTED]

**ENCLOSURES:**

- Correspondent's Enclosure
- What You Can Do To Fight Communism
- Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism
- The Communist Party Line
- One Nation's Response To Communism

**NOTE:** Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles. Enclosure was a pamphlet of the Cinema Education Guild, Inc., entitled "The 'Genocide' Plot." This tract has come to the Bureau's attention in the past and concerns the United Nation's pending treaty under the name of 'International Covenant of Human Relations.'

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The UNICEF is an organization which reports to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. It has not been the subject of Bureau investigation. Inquiries concerning it have been referred to the State Department in the past. Copy sent by referral form to the State Department.

[REDACTED]

October 18, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director of Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover;

We are located in the tip end of Texas in a small community which is called the Rio Grande Valley. Just recently many anti-Communists groups have been formed within this area, twelve of them in our city of [REDACTED]. When these groups started they were known as the "Anti-Communist Study Groups" and apparently were very interested in their studies.

Just recently there has been quite an attack on the National Council of Churches and the circulation of the pamphlet, "How Red is the National Council of Churches?" and others along the same line. One in particular suggests that if the Church to which they belong supports the National Council of Churches that they should withdraw their financial support from their Church. Some of the groups have gone so far as to say that if their Church puts any amount of money, no matter how small or large, in their budget for the coming year that they will withdraw their membership from the Church as well.

The things which concern us right now are: From whom are they receiving this material and who is printing it? The one pamphlet dealing with the support and withdrawal carries this address:

Tax Fax- No. 31 from  
The Independent American  
P.O.Box 4223  
New Orleans 18, Louisiana

Tracts such as one enclosed are being widely circulated too. As Halloween approaches our young people of all churches gather together to make plans for "Trick or Treat" for UNICEF. Mimeographed copies of "Facts about UNICEF" were distributed so the young people and parents would get them- It is all against UNICEF and says it is compiled by Lawrence Timbers, Vice-Chairman Department Anti-Subversive Committee, The America Legion. It also says that additional information may be procured direct from Lawrence Timbers, 317 First West, Seattle 99, Washington.

*None  
Oct 16-25-61  
O.R. [initials]*

When the members of the groups are questioned as to where they get their material they are always vague. However, we did get this one address: Christian Anti-Communism Crusade- P.O.Box 6422, Houston 6 Texas.

We are quite concerned about these groups and what they are doing to the churches in our city. We would appreciate hearing from you concerning the National Council of Churches, **OCT 26 1961** publications in quest[ions].

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Thank you very much.

**ENCLOSURE**

REC-4 100-50869-8

REC-52

100-50869-804

October 25, 1961

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of October 20, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 20  
OCT 25 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Enclosures (3)
  - A View of Reality
  - The Deadly Contest
  - Communist Illusion & Democratic Reality
  - The Communist Party Line
  - One Nation's Response to Communism

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE


MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

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OCT 25 4 39 PM '61

OCT 22 2 00 PM '61  
REC'D [unclear]  
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RVA



**NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent.  
The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]

20 Oct '61

J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir.

I have recently become concerned over charges from various sources that the National Council of Churches is communist infiltrated and that its aims are more political than religious.

I would appreciate any information you could give me concerning this organization or its leaders & activities.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]

*Am*

REC-52

100-50869-804

OCT 26 1961

*1-7c  
10-24-61/leh*

*Stev*

[REDACTED]

20 Oct 61

J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

I have recently become concerned  
over charges from various sources that  
the "National Council of Churches" is  
communist infiltrated and that its  
aims are more political than religious.

I would appreciate any information  
you could give me concerning this  
organization or its leaders & activities.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

[Handwritten signature]

10-23-61

[REDACTED]

1-TC  
10-24-61

10-24-61

LPT

CORRESPONDENCE

[Handwritten initials]



112

October 23, 1961

REC-52

100-50869-803

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

I have received your letter of October 18, 1961. It was good of you to give me the benefit of your observations, and I appreciate the interest which prompted you to write.

The FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not furnish comments or evaluations concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. Consequently, it is not possible for me to comment as you requested, and I hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have information in our files concerning the subjects of your inquiry.

Certainly, communism is the greatest single threat facing the freedoms we all cherish. Patriotic Americans must continue to take a firm stand against communism and combat it wherever possible, but this opposition must be careful, constructive and positive.

In view of the concern you expressed, I am enclosing some material which may be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 20  
OCT 24 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (5)

Listed next page.

57 OCT 24 1961

NOT See next page.

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

CJH:rap (3)

OCT 27 5 21 PM '61  
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*[Handwritten signatures and notes]*  
W.S. [unclear]  
DEC 14 1961  
LBI  
REC'D [unclear]  
Drew  
J. [unclear]  
[unclear]

[REDACTED]

**Communism and Religion - William C. Sullivan's Speech**  
**Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism**  
**4-17-61 Internal Security Statement**  
**4-1-61 LEB Introduction**  
**The Communist Party Line**

**NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent,** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

October 18, 1961

[REDACTED]

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

*eff*

I am sure you have received a great deal of mail, pro and con, concerning the recently-mushrooming distortionist cults speaking out against many loyal American citizens under the label of patriotism. Personally I believe such groups (e.g., the Houstoneers, the John Birchers, etc.) not only help Communism but hinder the work of those fighting the influence of Communism with more sane, rational methods.

For this reason, I expressed concern to the manager of our local radio station over the broadcast of a program KNOW THINE ENEMY on public service time. I feel that, if it is broadcast at all—and that I'm not too sure of-it should be done under private sponsorship, and not given public service time. Not only is the announcer on KNOW THINE ENEMY one of these glip sort of people who sounds to my ears as if he has very little sincerity; I have even heard him mispronounce several fairly common words on his program. Further, I am appalled at the highly distorted manner in which KNOW THINE ENEMY has attacked the President, the National Council of Churches, and a number of other prominent individuals and groups.

[REDACTED] is writing you, for his own satisfaction and mine, for your opinion of this radio program. I would be grateful if you would let me know also.

A couple of other questions, if I may! One of our local lawyers is making the rounds of [REDACTED] civic clubs accusing the editor of the CHRISTIAN CENTURY of being a Communist, and going off on a similar tangent about the National Council of Churches of Christ. He does not accuse the leadership of the NCCC of being outright Communists—only of following the "party line", which is accusation enough. He has also accused the American Civil Liberties Union of being a Communist-front group. I know little about this group, other than the fact that it has given legal aid, I understand, to Communists, which of course in itself does not make it a Communist-front group. As I understood it, the A.C.L.U. has been involved simply in protecting the rights of individuals, as this applies to Communists, not to be forced to incriminate themselves as defendants on a witness stand. I would be pleased if you would let me know what the FBI thinks of these accusations I have mentioned. If there is some truth in them, that is one thing: if there is not, then I would like to use what influence I have to prevent this sort of thing going on, at least here in the community in which I live. *DEC 13*

*30*  
*Di*  
*80*

We're all concerned about the spread of Communism. Hopefully, I feel sure that the FBI is just as much concerned about individuals and groups who use the Communist methods of lies and distortions in the name of patriotism and anti-Communism. I would appreciate your help with general suggestions, as well as specifics on the things I have mentioned, if you can do so.

*and*  
*3-61*  
*1-61*

*EXP-PROC*  
*37*

*OCT 26 1961*

70  
REC-23/100-50869-802

October 23, 1961

71-104

[Redacted]

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI  
OCT 23 3 28 PM '61

Dear [Redacted]

I have received your letter of October 17. Your generous comments and expression of confidence in my administration of this Bureau are indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of service, the FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not furnish comments or evaluations concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. Consequently, it is not possible for me to be of assistance, and I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files regarding the subjects of your inquiry.

I can assure you that there is no truth whatever in the statement to which you referred in your letter. By Presidential Directive of September 6, 1939, the FBI was designated as the civilian intelligence agency primarily responsible for protecting the Nation's internal security. You may be sure that this Bureau is continuing to handle its responsibilities in this field with the same dispatch and thoroughness that have characterized our investigations in the past.

I am enclosing a list of those organizations which have been designated by the Department of Justice pursuant to Executive Order 10450, together with some other material on communism which may be of interest to you.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DEC 53  
OCT 23 1961  
COMM-FBI  
REC'D W/...

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover  
EEI  
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
63F

Enclosures (5)  
SEE ENCLOSURES AND NOTE NEXT PAGE

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

Handwritten signatures and initials: WSH, Jm, and others.

Letter to [REDACTED]

Enclosures (5)  
List of Subversive Organizations  
4-17-61 Internal Security Statement  
Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism  
The Communist Party Line  
Series From Christianity Today

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information concerning correspondent. The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. [REDACTED]

October 17, 1961

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, 25, D.C.

Dear Sir:

For some time I have greatly admired your various writings on the general subject of communism. It was not until you recently replied to an inquiry written by a friend of mine that I realized you would take the time from your busy schedule to answer questions.

During the past few months a number of members of our congregation (Protestant Episcopal) have been trying to alert our priest and vestry to the threat to our freedom posed by communism. The subject of infiltration of the Episcopal Church and of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America (NCCCUSA) has been discussed on a number of occasions. Our priest, [redacted] was a delegate to the recent triennial General Convention of the Church held in Detroit and reported that in the committee meeting where the NCCCUSA was discussed no mention was made of communism. He infers from this that there is no infiltration of this body. I contend that the nature of the pronouncements of the NCCCUSA would indicate infiltration by communists, or at least the presence of persons sympathetic to the communist cause. Nowhere in your writings that I have been privileged to read to date can I find a direct reference to this. Could you express an opinion on whether the headquarters of the NCCCUSA has been infiltrated?

I realize that it may be unwise for a man in your position and with your unquestioned national reputation for integrity to give a direct answer to the above question and to those to be asked below. If you choose not to answer I will understand. However, I am anxious to have an answer because I do wish to heed your admonition, "We must not, therefore, indiscriminately label as communists those whose opinions on a particular question may, on occasion, parallel the official Party position."

The name of Canon Richard Byfield of the Protestant Episcopal Church appears in some of the accounts of the riots in connection with the hearings of the House Committee on Un-American Activities held in San Francisco, May 12-14, 1960. In your opinion is Canon Byfield a communist?

During our discussions the extent of control of the Russian Orthodox Church by the Soviet leaders has been argued. Do you have any information as to the accuracy of Mr. P.S. Deriabian's testimony before the Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee on May 5, 1959. I have particular reference to his identification of Metropolitan Nikolai as an agent of KGB and to his statement "Most of the priests in the Soviet Union, and the religious people who help the priests, they are some kind of agents of KGB or the MGB, or were at that time."

We have also talked about the NAACP, the Freedom Riders and Rev. Martin Luther King. Do you have any indication that the Freedom Riders is a Communist front organization? I have a pamphlet that is supposed to be a speech by the attorney general of a southern state in which he states that Rev. King was a lecturer at a Communist training school. Do you have any confirmation of this type of activity by the Rev. King?

*ml*

*ack 10-16-61*  
*10-10-61*  
*10-10-61*

REC-23 100-50869-802

17 OCT 18 1961

RESPONDENCE

OCT 18 1961

I have been told that the Justice Department publishes a list of subversive organizations. How does one obtain a copy?

At a recent convention of the Christian Crusade held in Tulsa August 4-6 one of the speakers made the statement that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had been given instructions to cease their spy hunting and anti-Communist activities. Can this incredible idea have any basis in fact?

As a citizen I would like to tell you how much I think the United States is in your debt for the wonderful job you have been doing for so many years as Director of the FBI.

Very sincerely yours,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted mark]

my  
REC-45

100-50869-801

October 20, 1961

*[Handwritten signature]*

EX 100

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Oct 20 11 52 AM '61  
RECEIVED  
F B I

Your letter of October 14, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and the concern prompting your communication is appreciated.

In connection with the matter you mentioned, representatives of the FBI who are privileged to speak before various groups throughout the country do so with my full knowledge and approval. Any comments by a representative of this Bureau, however, should not be interpreted as a defense or endorsement of any group since this is not a proper function of the FBI. Assistant Director William C. Sullivan in his discussion of communism dealt with this subject accurately and objectively. In order that you may be fully informed in this regard, I am enclosing the substance of the statements made by Mr. Sullivan. I am also forwarding some other material on the general subject of communism you may like to read.

Our churches have been and will continue to be important targets in the over-all communist program of endeavoring to infiltrate our established institutions, and we must remain alert to such efforts to subvert our way of life. The communists have tried to infiltrate every part of our society, including the field of religion. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations.

W.P.P.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED  
OCT 20 1961  
COMM-FBI

NOTE: Next page.

Enclosure (5) Next page.

62 OCT 26 1961 TELETYPE UNIT

JCF:ncr (3)

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover  
*[Handwritten signature]*  
FBI  
SECY

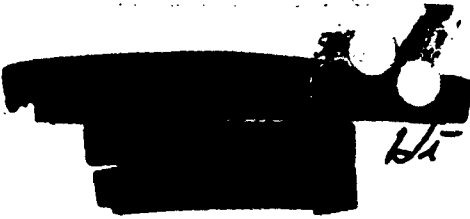
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*[Handwritten initials]*



**Enclosures**  
**Communism and Religion by William C. Sullivan**  
**10-61 LEB Intro**  
**Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism**  
**The Communist Party Line**  
**Christianity Today series**

**NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent.**  

*Handwritten notes:* 100-50869-601

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Boardman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nichols	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Casper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Conrad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Felt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tavel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Ingram	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

October 14, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

1961 21  
*Handwritten:* 300

Dear Mr. Hoover:

*Handwritten:* 44

Enclosed is a paper distributed by Mr. Kilpatrick, representing the Texas Council of Churches, at a local meeting at the First Methodist Church here in [redacted] on Wednesday night, October 11th.

37

Mr. Kilpatrick asserted this copy of an editorial as being your answer to our laity's concern over the activities of some of the members of the National Council of Churches General Assembly.

There is doubt in my mind that such is your intent and that is why I am writing to you.

Our questions to Mr. Kilpatrick were all pertaining to the political pronouncements of the General Assembly of the National Council of Churches and they were not answered to our satisfaction.

May I please hear from you in regards to the enclosed editorial.

Yours very truly,



EX 100

ENCLOSURE

REC-46, 100-50869-601

OCT 27 1961

OCT 19 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

ack 10-20-61  
JCF

35  
General Board

NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM AND SUN, SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1961

Church and Religious News

# FBI: Wide Communist Infiltration in Churches a 'Falsehood'

*Once again charges of Communistic infiltration are being hurled against U.S. churches. Here statements from the FBI show how such wild claims by anti-Communist "vigilantes" are actually welcomed by the Reds.*

By LOUIS CASSELL,  
United Press International.

No rational person can be a sincere Christian and a sincere Communist.

Communists know this. That is why they persecute Christian churches—sometimes openly, sometimes subtly—in every country in which they have gained power, from Russia to Cuba.

In free nations like America, Communists cannot suppress the churches but must think of other tactics.

Undoubtedly they have tried in the past to infiltrate churches by having disguised Communists work their way up to leadership, particularly in the clergy.

They have learned that this is easier said than done. It is difficult for a Communist to pose convincingly as a dedicated Christian even for the space of one conversation, let alone through the long years of seminary study and pulpit service required of any man who becomes an influential leader in U.S. church life.

#### Discredit Leadership

Although they have failed to infiltrate the churches in any substantial way, there is evidence that the Communists like it when charges are made that they actually have done so.

The Communists know that in the present climate of American feeling, there is no surer way of discrediting the leadership of churches and of sowing confusion and discord among their lay members than for the suspicion to be nour-

ished that a substantial number of Christian clergymen are secret supporters of the Communist conspiracy.

You may think all of this is far-fetched. But the Federal Bureau of Investigation does not.

FBI director J. Edgar Hoover is deeply concerned about the danger that self-appointed "vigilantes" may, in the name of anti-communism, play into the Communists' hands.

During the past few weeks, Mr. Hoover has sent FBI Chief Inspector William C. Sullivan to deliver speeches in many parts of the nation, warning Americans not to be taken in by charges that their churches are over-run with Reds.

#### Charge Is 'Falsehood'

"These allegations have served to create the impression among many Americans that the Protestant denominations in particular have been subjected to alarming infiltration and influence," Mr. Sullivan says.

"But this is a patent falsehood. The truth is that the Communist party has not achieved any substantial success in exerting domination, control or influence over America's clergymen or religious institutions on a national scale."

Mr. Sullivan is not making this statement on his own authority. He is speaking with the full approval and personal backing of Mr. Hoover. And the FBI director has so informed a number of amateur Communist hunters, who wrote to him protesting Mr. Sullivan's speeches.

"The most interesting reaction," an FBI official told United Press International, "has been from the Communists. They are very upset by Mr. Sullivan's remarks."

"They love to have wild charges of Communist domination hurled against America's churches. They know that such charges cause consternation, dissension, doubt and fear among church members. And they figure that anyone who succeeds in demoralizing America's churches is aiding their cause."

100-50869-801

RA

REC-49 100-50869-800

October 20, 1961

EX-102

[REDACTED]

B  
CERTIFIED  
OCT 20 10 52 AM '61  
ADM. DIV. I

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of October 16, 1961, has been received, and I am most appreciative of your kind sentiments and expression of confidence in my administration of this Bureau.

While I would like to be of service to you, the FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not furnish comments or evaluations concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. Consequently, it is not possible for me to be of assistance in connection with your request, and I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files regarding the subjects of your inquiry.

Certainly, communism is the greatest single threat facing the freedoms we all cherish, and it poses a problem which should be of vital concern to every American. In my book, "Masters of Deceit," I pointed out that it is a continuing program of the Communist Party to attempt infiltration of every part of our society, including religion. This is still true today. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations.

I am enclosing some material which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES  
OCT 20 11 30 AM '61  
EBI  
am  
EBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 3:50  
OCT 20 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)

(SEE ENCLOSURES AND NOTE ON NEXT PAGE)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT   
CJH:mks (3)

[Handwritten signature]

Letter to [REDACTED]

Enclosures (5)

4-17-61 Internal Security Statement

The Communist Party, USA (9-61)

Communism and Religion (Speech by William C. Sullivan)

The Communist Party Line

Series from Christianity Today

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information regarding correspondent [REDACTED]. The Bureau is aware of the [REDACTED] communist front affiliations of [REDACTED] several persons responsible for the Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible. The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC.

OCT. 16th, 1961.

"DEAR BROTHER HOOVER"

I am writing this note for information about the men of the National Council of Churches, and also the men that edited the Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

There is no question in my mind about these men, but there has been in our area this summer a man by the name of OLIVER GREEN who has confused some of my Parishoners as to this item, and these people are about to leave the Organized Church because Oliver Green has said, there is communism in the National Council of Churches and also Communism among the men who edited the Revised Standard Version of the bible.

I would like a Statement from You about this matter if this is not too much trouble, so that I would have a doucement of authority to show these people, that their confusion may be dispersed.

Thanking you in advance for every consideration, and Praying GOD'S Richest Blessings upon YOU and Your Organization for the wonderful job you have been doing here in the United States Of America,

"I AM"

RECEIVED

OCT 11

CCI

REC-49

REC. 1

100-50861-800

17 OCT 17 1961

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

*ack 10-19-61  
O (H) / j...  
re-write  
10-20-61  
O (H) / j...*

100-50869-797

REC-4

October 17, 1961

[REDACTED]

INFORMATION

6212

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of October 10 and appreciate the concern which prompted your communication.

In response to your inquiries, I would like to point out that the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. I am sure you will understand my being unable to comment relative to the individuals and groups you mentioned.

May I suggest that anyone experiencing difficulty in purchasing copies of my book, "Masters of Deceit," secure them from the publishers, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., 383 Madison Avenue, New York 17, New York.

Please accept my thanks for the good wishes expressed in your letter. I am enclosing several items you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

Edgar Hoover

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]

DCM  
RML  
10 23 AM '61

MAILED 20  
OCT 17 1961  
COMM-FBI

1 - Chicago - Enclosure

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (5)

Director's Statement re Internal Security 4-17-61  
Communism the Bitter Enemy of Religion  
Christianity Today series

JRS:lcw (4)

(SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE)

62 OCT 23 1961

[Handwritten signature]

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OCT 17 3 18 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

Letter [REDACTED]

**NOTE:** Bufiles contain no information identifiable with the correspondent. [REDACTED]

Our files indicate that the Circuit Riders is an organization of laymen of the Methodist Church which has been carrying out an anti-communist crusade, aimed mainly at communist infiltration of churches and the clergy. One of its prime targets has been the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA.

OCT 10 15 30 AM '21

DCM INLET DIA  
REC.D



Oct. 10, 1961

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Dalbey	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Malone	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Ingram	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

*m*  
*V. W.*  
*10/11/61*

J. Edgar Hoover  
Director of Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have recently become aware of the dangers of communism in our country. Some of the literature I've sent for has come from such organizations as the Christian Crusade (Billy James Hargis), Church League of America (Mr. Edgar Bundy) and the Circuit Riders of Cincinnati Ohio. Could you please tell me if these are reputable sources on anti-communism?

I have tried to convince our minister of the infiltration of communists in the churches and the National Council of Churches but he is of the opinion there isn't a real serious threat. For some unknown reason to me, he has no use for Mr. Edgar Bundy of the Church League of America. I'm certain Mr. Bundy is doing his very best to fight this conspiracy that is out to destroy us.

What I can't understand Mr. Hoover is why the American people refuse to believe this country is in terrible danger. Their apathetic feelings must certainly please the communists.

I've had several friends tell me that my concern over this so called threat is completely wrong and that it's helping the communists. Incidentally, there is a book store here in [redacted] that refuses to carry your book "Masters of Deceit" as they feel it is too reactionary.

Fortunately we have started many study groups in [redacted] and we hope with enough Americans waking up we will be able to stamp out the communist threat.

In closing, I only wish that your tremendous directing of the F. B. I. could continue for another 40 years.

Sincerely yours,

REC-4

100-50869-799

SECRET

[redacted signature]

OCT 19 1961

13

OCT 13 11 23 AM '61  
EST  
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911

O Oct. 10, 1961

J. EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR OF FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR MR. HOOVER:

I HAVE RECENTLY BECOME AWARE  
OF THE DANGERS OF COMMUNISM IN OUR COUNTRY.  
SOME OF THE LITERATURE I'VE SENT FOR HAS  
COME FROM SUCH ORGANIZATIONS AS THE CHRISTIAN  
CRUSADE (BILLY JAMES HARRIS), CHURCH LEAGUE  
OF AMERICA (MR. EDGAR BUNDY) AND THE  
CIRCUIT LEADERS OF CINCINNATI, OHIO. COULD  
YOU PLEASE TELL ME IF THESE ARE REPUTABLE  
SOURCES ON ANTI-COMMUNISM?

I HAVE TRIED TO CONVINCCE OUR  
MINISTER OF THE INFILTRATION OF COMMUNISM  
IN THE CHURCHES AND THE NATIONAL COUNCIL  
OF CHURCHES BUT HE IS OF THE OPINION  
THERE ISN'T A REAL SERIOUS THREAT. FOR  
SOME UNKNOWN REASON TO ME, HE HAS NO  
USE FOR MR. EDGAR BUNDY OF THE CHURCH  
LEAGUE OF AMERICA. I'M CERTAIN MR. BUNDY  
IS DOING HIS VERY BEST TO FIGHT THIS  
CONSPIRACY THAT IS OUT TO DESTROY US.

WHAT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND MR.  
HOOVER IS WHY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE REFUSE  
TO BELIEVE THIS COUNTRY IS IN TERRIBLE  
DANGER. THEIR APATHETIC FEELINGS MUST

copy 12-17-61  
1/5/62

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I HAD SEVERAL FRIENDS TELL ME THAT MY CONCERN OVER THIS SO CALLED THREAT IS COMPLETELY WRONG AND THAT IT'S HELPING THE COMMUNISTS. INCIDENTALLY, THERE IS A BOOK STORE HERE IN [REDACTED] THAT REFUSES TO CARRY YOUR BOOK "MASTERS OF DECEIT" AS THEY FEEL IT IS TOO REACTIONARY.

FORTUNATELY WE HAVE STARTED MANY STUDY GROUPS IN [REDACTED] AND WE HOPE WITH ENOUGH AMERICANS WAKING UP WE WILL BE ABLE TO STAMP OUT THE COMMUNIST THREAT.

IN CLOSING, I ONLY WISH THAT YOUR TREMENDOUS DIRECTING OF THE F.B.I. COULD CONTINUE FOR ANOTHER 40 YEARS.

SINCERELY YOURS,

[REDACTED]

OCT 12 10 07 AM '61

REC'D - DIRECTOR  
F B I

10/12

DIRECTOR

DIRECTOR, FBI

10/12/61

SAC, SAN DIEGO (62-0)

LOUIS CASSELS  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

On 10/11/61.

[redacted] Telephone [redacted] appeared at the San Diego Office to inform that he has long been avidly anti-communist and does everything within his power to defeat communism. In this regard, he has denounced and corresponded with Bishop PIKE of the Episcopal Church, [redacted]

[redacted] advised that he has recently seen an article in the July, 1961, issue of "The Episcopalian" published in New York City, Box 199, Madison Square Station, written by LOUIS CASSELS in which CASSELS mentions that two Episcopal laymen, one a newspaperman and the other a high official of the FBI were conversing at the Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. about the campaign to threaten and demoralize America's churches. The FBI official is reported to have said, "It would certainly be ironic if a job which the communists couldn't do for themselves should be done for them by the very people who profess to be their worst enemies." This related to attacks and accusations against churchmen and groups in this country. The article continued that the FBI has evidence that communists are as delighted with the results as if they had planned the whole operation themselves.

[redacted] stated that he had gone to "Who's Who" and found that CASSELS is a young journalist from Washington, D. C. [redacted] stated that he intends to write to CASSELS and ask him how he got information that would permit him to make a statement that he had received such information from a representative of the FBI.

This is being furnished the Bureau for information. The New York Office should secure a copy of this issue of "The Episcopalian" and forward same to the Bureau.

- 2 - Bureau
- 2 - New York
- 1 - San Diego

WRT:sm  
(5)

100-50869-  
NOT RECORDED  
78 OCT 27 1961

64 NOV 1 1961

150-604207-201

DIRECTOR, FBI  
Attention: Assistant Director SULLIVAN

10/11/61

SAC, CINCINNATI (100-11382)

MYERS G. LOWMAN  
CIRCUIT RIDERS, INC.  
CINCINNATI, OHIO

Enclosed for the information of the Bureau are two copies of a letter prepared by LOWMAN concerning The National Council of Churches.

LOWMAN states that this letter will be given wide circulation during the latter part of October, 1961. He hopes to obtain enough pre-publication orders to immediately start publication of a book on certain leaders of the National Council of Churches.

2-Bureau (Enc. 2) (RM)  
1-Cincinnati

IPS:blb  
(3)

ENCLOSURE  
ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

100-50869-  
NOT RECORDED  
OCT 17 1961

66 OCT 19 1961

301

ORIGINAL FILED IN

# Circuit Riders, Inc.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
110 GOVERNMENT PLACE  
CINCINNATI 2, OHIO  
DUbbor 1-6168

E. M. SIMS, President

M. G. LOWMAN, Executive Secretary

October, 1961

## THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Clergy and lay members of churches, such as Methodist, Protestant Episcopal, Presbyterian, American Baptist and others, are showing grave concern about local, state and international politics and economics replacing spiritual, moral and patriotic loyalty-fervor in the denominational programs and the actions of the National Council of Churches.

Stronger central government in the denominations, and a perpetuated bureaucracy operation in the National Council of Churches, have produced denominational offices and National Council of Churches offices in Washington regarded by some United States Senators and Congressmen as the largest non-registered lobby activity in Washington, D. C.

Propaganda and lobby activities on foreign aid, as well as other international and domestic socialistic and collectivistic programs, amaze and alarm churchmen and government persons.

The Air Force Manual controversy, sparked largely by our pamphlet, A Compilation of Public Records, 30 of the 95 Men Who Gave Us the Revised, Standard Version of the Bible, and Recognize Red China? book and pamphlet, has alerted many Americans. Some denominational and National Council of Churches leadership persons represent the National Council of Churches as not infiltrated, exploited or "used" by pro-Communistic and Communistic persons, programs and actions.

The facts are:

1. About a third of the clergy voting delegates who organized National Council of Churches in 1950 have public records such as those contained in Circuit Riders, Inc. books, 2109 Methodist Ministers, 614 Presbyterian USA Clergymen, 660 Baptist Clergymen, 1411 Protestant Episcopal Rectors and other books of compilations published by Circuit Riders, Inc.

2. Approximately a third of the persons elected to the General Board of National Council of Churches have had similar records.

3. At least 500 officers, denominational representatives and other officials of National Council of Churches have similar records.

(over)

100-50869-1

We solicit pre-publication orders for a major book report which indicates whose names appeared where, when and how in support of which pro-Communist and Communist causes, either wittingly or unwittingly. The text shows the denominational connections and the National Council of Churches titles of these persons since 1950.

It is important that U. S. clergy and lay members of churches have an incontrovertible fact record regarding who did what, where, when and how - for and to whom. Every Congressman, Senator and newspaper editor, columnist, radio and television commentator and public-spirited churchman should have this record. In return for each \$4.00 contribution made on a pre-publication basis, we will mail one of these books to our list of persons in the above categories, or to you for mailing, or mail them with your or our address label to your list of names.

This is an era of propaganda and do-gooding during which approximately 10,000 clergymen have exceeded any other category of Americans whose names have appeared in public print in support of pro-Communist and Communist causes. The American churchmen who have unwittingly financed their own difficulties and predicament, through the political and economic activity programs of their denominations and the National Council of Churches, and other concerned persons, groups and associations, should now make it possible for us to print a bound book of a few hundred pages which catalogues the precise records and makes it impossible for propagandists to successfully tell less than the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

Will you airmail your contribution today in order that we can print the record which is already compiled?

Cordially yours,

M. G. Lowman

MGL:me

----- Cut here -----

Circuit Riders, Inc.  
110 Government Place, Room 925  
Cincinnati 2, Ohio

Attached hereto is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as a contribution.  
Send books at the rate of \$4.00 per book to:

- Me at the address below
- Circuit Riders, Inc. lists
- My list

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Zone State

REC-40  
EX-116

100-50869-796

October 11, 1961

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of October 4, 1961, has been received, and the interest prompting you to communicate with me is appreciated.

In response to your request, I would like to assure you that I did not make the statement attributed to me concerning the individual you mentioned in your letter. In this connection, I thought you might like to know that the FBI, being an investigative agency of the Federal Government, neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication.

I am enclosing some material you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*Hooper*

*Handwritten signature*

*Dech*

MAILED 20  
OCT 12 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)

Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism  
10-1-61 LEB Intro  
The Communist Party, USA  
The Communist Party Line

One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information of a derogatory nature and no prior correspondence identifiable with [Redacted]

[Redacted]

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JCF:ncf (3)

OCT 19 1961

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NOTE: continued next page.

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OCT 11 5 01 PM '61

MAILED 20  
OCT 11 1961  
COMM-FBI

*gum*



**NOTE: continued**

**The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**

[REDACTED]

October 4, 1961

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Casper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Conrad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Felt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tavel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Miss Holmes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

*[Handwritten signature]*

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Sir:

There has been a considerable amount of criticism of the National Council of Churches recently in this area. Allegations have been made that members of the Council are connected with subversive organizations.

One speaker who has talked to several groups of church women in this city has charged that you have made a public statement that Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, who was formerly a president of the National Council, was actually a card carrying member of the Communist Party.

I am a member of the Methodist Church which is affiliated with and a supporter of the National Council, and I believe in the purposes for which it was established. I am reluctant to believe that anyone connected with it is subversive. If you have in fact made the above statement about Dr. Dahlberg, I am sure you had convincing evidence to support it, and will not object to repeating it. If you did not make the statement, I am sure you will be glad to say so.

In either event, I will appreciate it very much if you will write me as to whether you made such a statement.

Yours very truly,  
[REDACTED]

SAC:t

EX-116

REC-40

100-50869-716

OCT 6 15 1961

OCT 9 1961

ack 10-11-61  
JCF

CORD [Handwritten signature]

30  
EXP. PROC.  
OCT 9 1961  
33

REC-40

100-50869-717

October 13, 1961

W

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of October 2, 1961, has been received, and the thought prompting you to write is appreciated.

With respect to your inquiry, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. In this connection, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects about which you asked.

Enclosed is some literature on the general subject of communism which you may find of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 20  
OCT 13 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

OCT 13 2 28

- Enclosures (5)
- 4-17-61 statement re internal security
- Faith in God: Our Answer to Communism
- The Deadly Contest
- The Communist Party Line
- Christianity Today Series

EFT:cjk

62 OCT 13 1961

TELETYPE UNIT

Note on next page

OCT 13 5 06 PM '61  
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*edmw*

**NOTE: Neither the correspondent nor [REDACTED] is identifiable in Bufiles.**

**The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
2 October 1961

Dear Sir:

Would greatly appreciate any information you can furnish me about an organization called the "National Council of Churches" and about one of their members Rev. Arnon O. Arbogast. OF CHRIST

71/ This information is of great importance to me as I have heard this organization was backed by the communists. This Rev. Arbogast is at present in [REDACTED] conducting a series of meetings. There is no attendance much at any of his services, yet he rents a store in the city pays a car payment has workers with him and the money has to be supplied from some source.

I am pastor of a church about 10 miles from [REDACTED] and some of my members are taking in every thing this man says and if he is backed by the communist then my people need to know this and the sooner the better.

Any information you have concerning this organization and this man will be highly appreciated.

Hoping to hear from you soon I am,

Sincerely yours,

REC-40 / 100-50869-797

181

[REDACTED] OCT 16 1961

mmi  
ack 10-13-61  
Eft: gk

8-9

170, 10-13-61. cjk

[REDACTED]

2 October 1961

Dear Sir:

Would greatly appreciate any information you can furnish me about an organization called the "National Council of Churches" and about one of their members Rev Arnon O. Arbogast.

This information is of great importance to me as I have heard this organization was backed by the Communists. This Rev. Arbogast is at present in [REDACTED] conducting a series of meetings. There is no attendance much at any of his services, yet he rents a store in the city pays a car payment has workers with him and the money had to be supplied from some source.

<sup>nm</sup>  
ack 11-13-61  
<sup>et. cjk</sup>  
I am pastor of a church about 10 miles from [REDACTED]

and some of my members are taking in every thing this man says and he is backed by the communists.

11-13-61, et

COPIES PENDING

then my people need to know this  
and the sooner the better.

Any information you have  
concerning this organization and this  
man will be highly appreciated.

Hoping to hear from you soon  
I am,

Sincerely yours,

A large, solid black rectangular redaction covers the signature area of the letter.

ST  
esa REC-2

100-50869-795

October 10, 1961

EX-116

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Oct 10 4 14 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
F B I

Your letter of October 3, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest. There is no charge for these items.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*V. [unclear]*  
*Stov*

MAILED 20  
OCT 10 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (5) 4-17-61 Internal Security Statement  
The Deadly contest  
4-1-61 LEB Introduction  
The Communist Party Line  
Christianity Today Series

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

66 OCT 16 1961

RVA:lc\*  
(3)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

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*[unclear]*  
*[unclear]*  
*RVA*

*edm*



October 3, 1961

[REDACTED]

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Head Office  
Washington D.C.

Gentlemen:

If I may take a few moments of your busy schedule I should like to ask a favor of you.

In the last few months there has been an increased amount of interest in the charges that the National Council of Churches contains within its membership know Communists. Your department has been one of the leading organizations in determining the validity or invalidity of these charges.

Would you be so kind as to send me any information regarding this subject that you might have available for distribution? If there is any charge please bill me and I will return the payment immediately.

Thank you for your time and interest, I am most appreciative.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Address:

[REDACTED]

100-50869-795

REC-3

100-50869-

OCT 11 1961

[REDACTED]

*Hell*  
*10-10-61*  
*J.V.F.*

*[Handwritten signature]*

REC-40 100-50869-794

EX-106

October 5, 1961



Dear [redacted]

Your letter of September 26, with enclosure, has been received, and I welcome the opportunity to clarify our position with respect to the matter you mentioned.

In my book, "Masters of Deceit," I pointed out that it is a continuing program of the Communist Party to attempt infiltration of every part of our society, including religion. This is still true today. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations.

MAILED 20  
OCT 5 1961  
COMM-FBI

I would like to emphasize, however, that churches will continue to be important targets in the over-all subversive plan of endeavoring to control our established institutions. Patriotic Americans must continue to take a firm stand against communism and combat it wherever possible. But this opposition to communism must be careful, constructive and positive, and it must always be kept within the due process of law. In reference to the item you enclosed, Assistant Director William C. Sullivan in his discussion of communism dealt with this subject accurately and objectively.

I am enclosing an outline of Mr. Sullivan's remarks, together with some other literature pertaining to this general subject which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (5) Listed next page

64 OCT 11 1961

TELETYPE UNIT

NOTE: See next page CJH:jlw (3)

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OCT 11 1961

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K...  
B...

*Handwritten initials:* JH

*Handwritten signature:* M. J. Glavin

  
October 5, 1961

Enclosures (5)  
Communism and Religion by Assistant Director William C. Sullivan  
Re Internal Security Statement 4/17/61  
Communist Party Line  
Communism: The Bitter Enemy Of Religion  
Christianity\*Today Series

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent. His enclosure was a copy of the United Press International article by columnist Louis Cassels which appeared in newspapers throughout the country last April.

|| [redacted]

September 26, 1961

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Ingram	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

erp

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
c/o Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Recently the newly-named President of the National Council of Churches, a Mr. Miller, in a meeting here in Los Angeles indicated that the F.B.I. a few months ago appointed Chief Inspector William C. Sullivan to deliver speeches on the subject of red infiltration into our churches. Attached is an article published in the New York World-Telegram and Sun, Saturday, April 29. Copies of this were passed out at the meeting as confirmation of the facts as stated above.

Undoubtedly you have heard of this situation from other citizens and I am wondering if you might have some information which you could send me regarding the situation.

Yours very truly,

[redacted signature]

EXP. PROC. 37  
OCT 2 1961

[redacted]

ENCLOSURE ATTACHEE

REC-40

100-5-567-774

20 OCT 2 1961

ENCLOSURE

ack: CJH: jlw  
10-5-61

*mm*

CORRESPONDENCE

10-2-61

PLAIN TEXT

TELEGRAM

DEFERRED

EX-106 REC-48 100-50869-793



REC'D-READING ROOM  
F B I  
OCT 7 3 36 PM '61

YOUR LETTER SEPTEMBER TWENTY NINE RECEIVED. FBI DOES NOT FURNISH COMMENTS OR EVALUATIONS REGARDING CHARACTER OR INTEGRITY OF ANY INDIVIDUAL, ORGANIZATION OR PUBLICATION. I HAVE NOT MADE STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO ME IN YOUR LETTER.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*Handwritten signatures and initials*

*Large handwritten checkmark*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
OCT 2 1961

WESTERN UNION

*Handwritten initials and notes*

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information concerning correspondent. Deferred telegram being utilized in view of deadline in this matter. The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Handwritten initials and signatures*

*Handwritten notes and stamps*

COPIES DESTROYED

INITIALED  
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

63 OCT 10 1961

2 8 JAN 10 1974

September 29, 1961

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Ingram	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr Hoover,

It has been stated here, in a "letters to the editor" column, that you said that the National Council of Churches is lead by men who are subversives. It seems to me that I read somewhere a denial of this, but can't find it.

Would you send me a letter or telegram either confirming or denying this. I am very concerned about the attack on the National Council, and would like to clear up what I hope is a misunderstanding.

I would appreciate it if it were possible to have a reply to go in next Thursday's paper. Deadline is Wednesday noon.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

EXP. PROC.

REC-48 100-50869-79

EX-106

OCT 4 1961

*mail telegram to Mr Hoover  
10-2-61  
08-11-61*

*(Handwritten initials)*

AA  
31

REC-3 100-50869-792

October 2, 1961

L-105

[REDACTED]

REC'D - READING ROOM  
F B I  
Oct 7 4 18 PM '61

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 27, 1961, has been received, and the interest prompting you to communicate with me is appreciated.

I regret that I am unable to be of assistance to you concerning the matter of your inquiry. In carrying out its investigative responsibilities, the FBI does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry. I am enclosing some material you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (2)  
The Deadly Contest  
The Communist Party Line

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with [REDACTED]. Only reference in Bufiles identifiable to [REDACTED] was an outgoing to her on 1-23-61 at which time she was sent reprint material. This material is not being duplicated.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JCF:mks  
(3)mks

MAILED 20  
OCT 2 - 1961  
COMM-FBI

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten notes and signatures]*

REC'D

56 OCT 5 1961

TELETYPE UNIT

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]

Sept - 27 - 1961.

Dear Mr. Hoover--

There has been so much controversy in our church about the National Council of Churches being a communistic front-- thoroughly infiltrated with communists--we would very much like to know your opinion of this organization--please--as being un american, etc.

Yours truly--

/s/ [REDACTED]

P-DC7

*mm*  
1/c 9-29-61  
mm  
ack 10-2-61  
St. J. m. u.



[REDACTED]  
Sept-27-1961.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Ingram	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

*[Handwritten initials]*

Dear Mr. Hoover -  
 There has been so much  
 controversy in our church  
 about the National Council  
 of Churches being a communist  
 front - thoroughly infiltrated  
 with communists - we  
 would very much like  
 to know your opinion  
 of this organization -  
 please - as being  
 unamerican, etc.

Yours truly -  
 [REDACTED]

National Council of Churches

RECEIVED

SEP 29 1961

REC-3

100-50869-79

-105

lth 9-29-61  
 mml  
 [Handwritten initials]

sub 10-2-61  
 [Handwritten initials]

10-3  
 [Handwritten initials]

September 27, 1961

100-50869-771

REC-39

EX-103

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 21, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

SEP 27 5 15 PM '61  
RECEIVED ROOM

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,  
L. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 3  
SEP 28 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (4)  
What You Can Do To Fight Communism  
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality  
Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion  
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent.

56 OCT 5 1961

RVA:jse\* (3)  
MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

8 Pull  
DEM  
FBI  
DWA  
DWA

✓ Adkins 10728

TRUE COPY

Sept 21, 1961

[Redacted]

8-1 dno

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs,

Would your organization be able to furnish me a report on the activities of the National Council of Churches operating in the United States.

I understand that this organization is pictured as being actively engaged in the support of the Communist Party U. S. A. Either by its political views or by official statements.

So if your report of the organizations officers, members, and views over the past years, reveal this to be valid. I will move that our local church withdraw its support of the National Council of Churches and also recommend that our state body withdraw.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

[Redacted Signature]

C

1-true copy  
9-26-61  
je

[Handwritten mark]

REC-9-27 61  
2/P

REC-39

801-73

100-50869-771

10 SEP 20 1961

7/2/61

Sept 21, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs,

Would your organization be able to furnish me a report on the activities of the National Council of Churches operating in the United States.

I understand that this organization is pictured as being actively engaged in the support of the Communist Party U.S.A. Either by its political views or by official statements

So if your report of the organizations officers, members, and views over the past year, reveal this to be valid, I will move that our local church withdraw its support of the National Council of Churches and also recommend that our state body withdraw.

CORP

Sincerely yours,  
[Redacted Signature]

PC 4-21-61  
RVH

S.T.  
esa

September 28, 1961

REC-2 100-50869-790

EX-71



Dear [redacted]

Your letter of September 23, 1961, has been received, and the expression of confidence contained in your communication is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 2  
SEP 28 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (4) Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality  
One Nation's Response to Communism  
4-17-61 Internal Security Statement  
Red Goals and Christian Ideals

NOTE: Bufiles contain no references to correspondent.  
RVA:gcb\*

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

edm

SEP 27 4 48 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

*Handwritten notes and signatures:*  
M...  
J...  
RVA  
TWA

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]

Sept 23, 1961

Mr. Hoover,

I am a very disturbed person including a few more by the things I have been reading and hearing. It is also causing splits in churches.

o "Do you have any evidence of Communist in the National Council of Churches?"

I feel that your department is doing a wonderful job about communism, but we having so many moisy detractors.

I appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Yours,

[REDACTED]

*Therese  
9-27-61*

*ack  
9-29-61*

REC-21

100-50869-71

SEP 29 1961

EX-113

*OK*

[Redacted]

Sept 23, 1961

Mr. Hoover,

I am a very disturbed person including a few more by the things have been heading and hearing. It is also causing splits in churches.

Do you have any evidence of "Communist" in the National Council of Churches?

I feel that your department is doing a wonderful job about communism, but we having so many noisy detractors.

I appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Yours.

[Redacted]

ack  
APP:ack  
9-29-61

me  
9/28

copy  
[Signature]

NA

ask

September 27, 1961

REC-91 100-50869-789

EX 100

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 21, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiries.

SEP 27 4 37 PM '61  
FBI READING ROOM

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 2  
SEP 27 1961  
COMM-FBI

✓ KESAC

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evens \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_

- Enclosures (5)
- 4-17-61 Internal Security Statement
- Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
- Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
- The Communist Party Line
- Christianity Today Series

John  
FA

DCM  
B...

NOTE: Correspondent is not identified. [REDACTED]  
1961 [ ] TELETYPE UNIT [ ]  
EFT:lc (3)

62 OCT 3 1961

(Continued on next page)



**NOTE CONTINUED: The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**

TRUE COPY

Sept. 21, 1961

Mr. J. Edger Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am a teacher of Civics in the Texas Public Schools. I was wondering if I could obtain some information concerning communist activities in the United States.

There are two questions in particular that I have been wondering about. First, is the N.A.A.C.P a communist or a communist backed organization? Second, is this true of the National Council of Churches?

Thank you very much for any consideration given to my letter and for any information that you might forward to me that would be enlightening to be as well as my students.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

/s/

17 true copies  
4-26-61  
lc

ack  
9-27-61  
ET file

smk

REC-91

100-50869-79

EX 100

SEP 28 1961

2-48

Sep 21, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am a teacher of Civics in the Texas Public Schools. I was wondering if I could obtain some information concerning Communist activities in the United States.

There are two questions in particular that I have been wondering about. First, is the N.A.A.C.P. a Communist or a Communist backed organization? Second, is this true of the National Council of Churches?

Thank you very much for any consideration given to my letter and for any information that you might forward to me that would be enlightening to me as well as my students.

Sincerely

[Redacted signature block]

File # 9-27-61

CORRESPONDENCE

EX 100

REC-91 100-50869-748

September 26, 1961

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

I have received your letter of September 20 and appreciate the concern which prompted your communication. Please accept my thanks for your kind sentiments. I am pleased to learn of the interest in your area in my book, "Masters of Deceit."

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. I am sure you understand my being unable to comment concerning the organization about which you inquired. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have information in our files relating to this group.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing some material you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 101  
SEP 26 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (5)

Director's 4-17-61 Statement re Internal Security - Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality  
Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion

Christianity Today Series  
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with the correspondent. She requests information concerning CROP (Christian Rural Overseas Program).

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

JRS:dko (3)

SEP 26 3 47 PM '61  
FBI  
REC'D-HEADING ROOM

hcb

SEP 26 4 10 PM '61

DM

55 OCT 3

1" am

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]

Sept. 20, 1961

Dear Mr Hoover,

We are interested in knowing if the CROP drive is a legitimate drive. Since the National Council of Churches in this area are promoting it & we know this to be a communist sponsored organization we were concerned in knowing whether to participate.

Your book "Masters of Deceit" is being widely read in this area and with God's help we may stop this cancerous growth of communism. May God bless and keep you.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ [REDACTED]

ack. CPS  
9-25-61  
100  
9-25-61

8/9/61

[REDACTED]

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Evans	
Mr. Malone	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Ingram	
Miss Gandy	

Sept. 24/61

Dear Mr Hoover,

We are interested in knowing if the CROP drive is a legitimate drive. Since the National Council of Churches in this area are promoting it & we know this to be a communist sponsored organization we were concerned in knowing whether to participate.

Your book "Masters of Deceit" is being widely read in this area and with God's help we may stop this cancerous growth of communism. May God bless and keep you.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

EX 100

REC-91

100-50869-268

JRS:glw  
9-26-61  
el 1cc CW  
9-25-61

22 SEP 27

Jour

REC-62

ST 100

File 100-50869-767

September 20, 1961

EP 8-2

SEP 20 3 38 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

[Redacted address block]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of September 12, 1961, has been received. I want to thank you for your thoughtfulness in writing to me and for your kind wishes.

In response to your request, I want to assure you that I did not make the statement attributed to me that you mention in your communication.

I have consistently stated that churches have been and will continue to be important targets in the over-all communist program of endeavoring to infiltrate our established institutions, and we must remain alert to such efforts to subvert our way of life. The communists have tried to infiltrate every part of our society, including the field of religion. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing some material you may like to read.

MAILED 84  
SEP 21 1961  
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 102-1084  
SEP 21 1961

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosure (4)  
What You Can Do To Fight Communism  
"Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"  
Christianity Today Series  
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE NEXT PAGE

JCF:lcw (3)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

**NOTE: R. W. Smith to W. C. Sullivan dated August 11, 1961, captioned**

**[REDACTED]**  
**[REDACTED] noted that Richard Arens, Chief Council for the**  
**House Committee on Un-American Activities (NCUA) during the hearing**  
**given the Secretary of the Air Force, the Honorable Dudley C. Sharpe,**  
**before the Committee on 2-25-60, at which time he said "Thus far of the**  
**leadership of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America we**  
**have found over 100 persons in leadership capacity with either Communist**  
**front records or records of service to Communist causes.**



September 12, 1961

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Conrad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Felt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Evans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Malone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tavel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Ingram	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Chief - Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Recently I addressed a Church group, stating facts about the National Council of Churches. I was asked to do this because I served five years on the staff of the old Federal Council of Churches, and one year on the staff of the National Council.

In the course of my address I quoted statement, and it has been made by your Deputy, Mr. Sullivan, defending the Council. In the question period that followed a gentleman read a statement from the Congressional Record, which quoted you as saying (and this is not verbatim) that after careful investigation, you found that there were about 100 Communists in the National Council. This to me was a shocking statement and I cannot believe that you made it. May I ask your indulgence to give me the basic facts for such a charge.

With all good wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

[Redacted signature]

*Bongiorno*  
*Kelly*

**EXP. PROC.**

SEP 18 1961

34

RECEIVED  
26 10 5 26 61

EX 100

REC-62

100 - 50869 - 8 - 807  
787  
JCF

SEP 26 1961

Act. 9-26-61  
JCF: jfw

*mm*

010

100-50869 - 786

September 21, 1961

REC-72

EX-13

[REDACTED]

@

REC'D-READING ROOM  
F B I

SEP 21 4 31 PM '61  
8-2

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 18, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to advise that the FBI, as strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not furnish evaluations or comments relative to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. In keeping with this policy, we have not, therefore, issued any releases such as you mentioned.

Our supply of the booklet you requested has been depleted; however, I am enclosing several other items regarding communism you may wish to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 30  
SEP 21 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Enclosures (4)
- Communist Party, USA
- 4-17-61 Internal Security Statement
- 3-60 LEB Intro. & 17 Nat'l Convention, CP, USA
- Series from "Christianity Today"

REC'D - DIRECTOR

Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.  
(Continued next page.)

1961

TELETYPE UNIT

*[Handwritten signatures and stamps]*  
REC'D - DIRECTOR  
FBI  
100-50869-786

①  
**The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC)**  
includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in  
the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to  
factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group  
is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has  
not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)

[REDACTED]

Sept. 18, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Information Section  
Washington, D. C.

@ 9/18/61

Gentlemen:

I am interested in whether or not your fine organization has made any releases relating to the nature of the personnel and the activities of the National Council of Churches. Any information you can give me on this matter would be greatly appreciated.

I also would like to have some copies of J. Edgar Hoover's pamphlet entitled "Communist Target -- Youth" as I think this is a great booklet.

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

REC-72 100-50261-786

SEP 22 1961

SAW 9-22-61

CORRESPONDENCE

# Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: September 20, 1961

FROM : Mr. F. J. Baumgardner

1 - Mr. Sullivan  
 1 - Mr. Baumgardner  
 1 - Mr. Harrington

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (NCC)

*Title of Memorandum at 3:00 PM*

The National Council of Churches (NCC) is the leading Protestant Church presently in the United States. Its headquarters are located at 475 Riverside Drive, New York City. It is comprised of 34 denominations with an estimated membership of about 39 million.

The following were listed as national officers of the NCC for 1960-1963 triennium as shown in the attached leaflet which is published by the NCC.

President

J. Irwin Miller  
Christian Churches  
(Disciples of Christ)

Vice Presidents at Large

Bishop John Wesley Lord  
(The Methodist Church)

The Most Rev. Metropolitan Antony Bashir  
(Syrian Antiochian Orthodox Church)

David B. Cassat  
(United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A)

Edward D. Grant Sr.  
(Presbyterian Church U.S.)

Donald L. Helfferich  
(United Church of Christ, Evangelical & Reformed)

Irwin J. Lubbers  
(Reformed Church in America)

F. Douglas Sellwright  
(United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A)

Mrs. William Sale Terrell  
(American Baptist Convention)  
Rev. John W. Williams  
(National Baptist Conv. of Amer.)

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

RECEIVED ENCLOSURE  
 266 51 11 52 AM '61

Enclosure

100-50869

1 - 100-403529 (Communism and Religion)

JTH:cad (5)

57 SEP 26 1961

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Memorandum Baumgardner to Sullivan  
RE: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
100-50869

Vice Presidents for Divisions

*President*  
*Organizations*  
*US*

Bishop Reuben H. Mueller  
(Evangelical United Brethren)  
Christian Education

Rev. Norman J. Baugher  
(Church of the Brethren)  
Christian Life and Work

Rev. Earl S. Erb  
(United Lutheran Church in America)  
Foreign Missions

Rev. Theodore S. Matson  
(Augustana Evangelical Lutheran)  
Home Missions

Recording Secretary

Rev. S. P. Stocker  
(Moravian Church)

Treasurer

David B. Cassat  
(United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.)

Associate Treasurer

John H. Blatt  
(United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.)

General Secretary

Rev. Roy G. Koss

Associate General Secretary

R. H. Edwin Espy

No information of a subversive nature is contained in  
Bureau files on any of the above officers except 



ACTION:

Submitted for record and file purposes in Bureau file  
100-50869 on "National Council of Churches."

*sac* *JTH* *DMK* *Q* *Wes* *ES*

112  
my

1 - Mr. Gurley

September 18, 1961

100-50869-784

REC-27  
X-202

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter dated September 12, 1961, and the interest which prompted your communicating with me is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

In view of your interest in the internal security of the United States, I am enclosing two items of literature which you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 30  
SEP 19 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (2)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

LTG:PW (3)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

FBI

SEP 21 1961

TELETYPE UNIT

FBI READING ROOM

NAVJUG-07330  
REC'D - 207111  
301211-187

SEP 17 10 00 AM '61

WCS  
8/24

edm

B

✓

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Bufiles contain no identifiable references to the correspondent.

The National Council of the Churches of Christ has not been investigated by the Bureau. We have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party to infiltrate it through our over-all investigations of the Communist Party, USA. It does not appear that the policies of this organization are being dictated by the Communist Party. (100-50869)

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent:

1. "What You Can do to Fight Communism and Preserve America."
2. Director's Statement Dated April 17, 1961, Regarding Internal Security.



TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
Sept 12, 1961  
[REDACTED]

Office of The F.B.I.:

Dear Sirs:

I would be interested to know if your department has any evidence of the National Council of Churches having Communistic affiliation. I have heard they have, also they haven't & would like to know what you think.

Thank you

Sincerely

/s/ [REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

[Redacted]

Sept 12, 1961

[Redacted]

yp

Office of The F.B.I.  
Dear Sirs:

I would be interested to know if your department has any evidence of the National Council of Churches having Communist affiliation. I have heard they have, also they haven't would like to know what you think.  
Thank you  
Sincerely

[Redacted]

REC-21

100-50869-794

Reference 100-102  
9-18-61  
LTG/mw

SEP 14 1961

Handwritten signatures and stamps, including "REC-21" and "SEP 14 1961".

30  
EX-100

SEP 14 1961

September 15, 1961

REC-62 100-51869-783

[REDACTED]

EX-112

SEP 15 11 58 AM '61  
FBI  
REC'D-READING ROOM

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 12, 1961, with enclosure, has been received.

As you undoubtedly are aware, I have written to the Reverend [REDACTED], and as I pointed out the FBI does not make evaluations of any type. I am, therefore, unable to offer any advice to you with respect to your inquiry. I do hope you will understand my position.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

DEM  
RUE

MAILED 90  
SEP 15 1961  
COMM-FBI

NOTE: The Bureau received a letter which was identical to [REDACTED] enclosure, from the Reverend [REDACTED] states that he supports the National Council of Churches and that one of his parishioners thinks the Council is "honeycombed with subversive elements." At the insistence of the parishioner he writes to the Director and asks his considered opinion concerning the communist infiltration of the National Council of Churches. [REDACTED] letter was acknowledged on September 7, 1961, and he was given our usual reply about not making evaluations or comments. It cannot be determined if [REDACTED] has seen our reply to [REDACTED] is not identifiable in Bufiles.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Lu. Pr. 26 12

SEC. 10

SEP 21 1961 TELETYPE UNIT

SAW:baw (3)

[Handwritten signature]

Sept. 12, 1961

National Council of Churches

J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir;

Enclosed is a copy of a letter my minister sent to you and I am the parishioner who has insisted for some time that my minister get more information on these issues.

I realize you can not give out information but hope that he can surely get advice.

This minister has taken a strong stand the same as the council on -- the Connally R,peal--Red China, etc. also one of the strongest voices in the city against - "Operation Abolition" and "Communism on the Map", even though I gave him the bulletin "Communists Target Youth".

I meanwhile have done some anti-Communist work which he strongly disapproves of. However I also know that the Council that is the N.C.C. is not filled with Communists but is used by them.

I do hope that in some way you can advise us. It certainly will be appreciated.

Yours truly,

[Redacted signature block]

Cc

Cc  
ENCLOSURE

REC-2072 - 50269-783

SEP 18 1961

EX-112

CORR - Dan 15/61

4/13/61  
[Handwritten notes]

C O P Y

August 31, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover, director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: .

I am a Methodist minister, with a long previous background of law enforcement, with one of the very large and outstanding law enforcement agencies of our country.

I write this at the behest of one of my parishioners, who is fearful that I have allowed myself to become a "dupe" of the forces of Communism, in some moderately "liberal" views which I hold.

The particular reference in which this lady requested me to write to you is in reference to the National Council of Churches. I am perfectly satisfied that this organization is one of the great forces for good in our present scene, and one whose loyalty and patriotism are above reproach,—in fact, one of the potent forces against Communist influence in our country.

My parishioner, on the other hand, is satisfied that the Council is not only questionable in itself, but is honeycombed with subversive elements.

Personally, I have become weary of this latter point of view, with which I am very familiar. Yet, I promised to write to you for your opinion of the National Council, in this regard. I am aware that across the history of the Federal Council, and its successor, the National Council, there have been a few who have courted the Communist point of view, from idealistic motives, most of whom have since become disabused of their Communist leanings. It is my belief that none of these persons has ever held any important office in the Council, with the possible exception of one man, who fifty years ago, for a short period, did hold such office. He is now an old man, and no longer to be seriously reckoned with.

While these are my convictions, based on observation and study, I am open to honest evidence. In your considered opinion, is the National

ENCLOSURE

COPY

Council of Churches a dangerous organization, from the standpoint of Communist infiltration?

In closing, let me, as a law enforcement officer, as a minister, and as a citizen, express my utmost confidence in the Federal Bureau of Investigation in its responsibility of guarding against the infiltrative inroads of Communism. I wish I might say as much for some of the amateur groups having official status, who are so active in the field.

This letter is an honest search for information, though admittedly is written, not from my own sense of need, but at the insistence of a parishioner who is convinced that I am being led down dangerous paths.

Please place my name on a mailing list which will provide me with appropriate information in this field.

Sincerely,

A thick black horizontal bar redacting the signature of the sender.

September 15, 1961

REC-2 100-50869-782

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter postmarked September 12, 1961, has been received.

The FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. For that reason I am unable to furnish the information you requested although you should not infer that our files either do or do not contain data concerning this matter.

Enclosed is some material about communism you may wish to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI  
SEP 15 9 40 AM '61

MAILED 80  
SEP 15 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (3)

Faith in God-- Our Answer To Communism  
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality  
Christianity Today series

NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in files.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JH:cah (3)

57 SEP 21 1961 TELETYPE UNIT

com

REC'D FBI  
SEP 15 1961  
[Handwritten signatures and initials]

TRUE COPY



Mr. Hoover,

Please send me the information concerning  
the communist influence in the National Council of Churches.

*Handwritten notes:*  
L-9-15-61  
H/cab  
9-13-61  
1 cc -  
cab

*Handwritten mark:* C

REC-62 100-5124-78

SEP 18 1961

*Handwritten initials:* J.C.



— [REDACTED] —  
Mr. Hooper,

Please send me  
the information concern-  
ing the Communist  
influence in the  
National Council of  
Churches.

mm  
Oct 9-15-61  
JH

CORRESPONDENCE

1 - Mr. Gurley

September 15, 1961

REC-29

100-50869-781

EX-107

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter dated September 12, 1961, and the interest which prompted your communicating with me is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 2  
SEP 15 1961  
COMM-FBI

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Bufiles contain no identifiable references to correspondent.

The National Council of the Churches of Christ has been investigated by the Bureau. We have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party to infiltrate it through our over-all investigations of the Communist Party, USA. It does not appear that the policies of this organization are being dictated by the Communist Party. (100-50869)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

SEP 15 1961

REC'D  
FBI  
JAN 7 1962

WCS  
JTB  
LH

IN REPLY REFER TO

[REDACTED]

12 Sept. 1961.

Mr J Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D C

Dear Sir:

It has been stated as a fact to me that "the head of the National Council of Churches is a card carrying Communist who is on the FBI list of suspects".

I do not have any information to refute this charge and will appreciate your advice in this regard. I am personally acquainted with the President of the NCC, Mr Irwin Miller of Columbus, Ind. It could be that this charge was made against him or perhaps the Executive Secretary or Director of the NCC.

In any event, I will appreciate whatever information you are able to give me in this connection.

REC-29 100-50869-781

Very Truly Yours

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

*eff*

*Handwritten vertical scribble*

SEP 13 1961

ACK  
9-15-61  
LTG / pw.

EX-107

*Handwritten signatures and stamps*  
SEP 18 1961

REC-98

100-50869-780

September 15, 1961

EX-113

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of September 11, 1961, has been received and the concern prompting you to communicate with me is appreciated.

In response to your request, I have consistently stated that churches have been and will continue to be important targets in the over-all communist program of endeavoring to infiltrate our established institutions, and we must remain alert to such efforts to subvert our way of life. The communists have tried to infiltrate every part of our society, including the field of religion. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations. Patriotic Americans must continue to take a firm stand against communism and combat it wherever possible. This opposition must be careful, constructive and positive, and it must always be kept within the due process of law.

Enclosed are some items on this general topic you may like to read.

*RuPr*

MAILED 82  
SEP 15 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*JCH*

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

- Enclosures (5)
- What You Can Do to Fight Communism
- "Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"
- Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
- Series from "Christianity Today"
- One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Enclosures contain no information identifiable with correspondent.

625

SEP 20 1961 JCF:jpr (3)  
Mail Room Teletype Unit

REC'D-HEADQUARTERS  
F B I  
SEP 15 4 12 PM '61

[REDACTED]

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Ingram	
Miss Gandy	

*[Handwritten initials]*

September 11, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director of the FBI  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I became the minister of this church in [REDACTED] on June 27 of this year, and discovered that the people here are very much concerned by the charges of Communism in the churches, and especially the charges of Communism in the National Council of Churches. Our amateur Communist hunters need to hear your views on this matter, for they greatly respect you and will believe what you say, while they will believe no one else who attempts to tell them that wide Communist infiltration is a falsehood.

Irresponsible charges of Communist infiltration are hurting the work of the Church here, and cause worry among our members. It would be greatly appreciated if we could have a statement from you, setting this in its proper perspective,

Thank you very much.

Yours truly,

[REDACTED]

EX-111

34

(2)

*15 61*  
*10-9-61*  
*CT: JTC*

REC-98

100-50869-74

SEP 14 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

EX-111

September 14, 1961

REC-88 EX-112  
100-57869-779

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter postmarked September 9, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 80  
SEP 14 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evens \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed (4) What You Can Do To Fight Communism  
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality  
Christianity Today Series  
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent.

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

RVA:lc\* (3)

SEP 14 11 56 AM '61  
READING ROOM  
B I

*[Handwritten signatures and initials: JPH, JPH, V, DEN, RWA]*

*[Handwritten initials: adm]*

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]

Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Dear Sir:

I have been informed that the objectives of the National Council of Churches, and the Communist Party are alike and farrell on numerous counts.

Could you send me documented evidence of of this material.

Sincerely yours

/s/

[REDACTED]

*Handwritten notes:*  
17-1-46  
2-1-46  
20

*Handwritten notes:*  
for  
1-1-46  
1-1-46  
M.M.C.

*Handwritten signature:*  
M.M.C.

[REDACTED]

OPTIONAL COUNCIL  
OF CHURCHES  
Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Dear Sir:

I have been informed  
that the Objectives of the  
National Council of Churches,  
and the Communist Party  
are alike and farrell on  
numerous counts.

Could you send me  
documented evidence of this  
material.

Sincerely yours, [Signature]

[REDACTED]

EX-112 REC-98 100-56812-77

22 SEP 18 1961



b  
REC-51  
FBI

100-50869-778

September 14, 1961

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 9, with enclosures, has been received, and it was certainly thoughtful of you to write. I deeply appreciate your very kind remarks concerning my administration of the FBI, and my associates and I sincerely hope that our future endeavors will merit your continued approval.

SEP 14 4 08 PM '61  
FBI  
REC'D-READING ROOM

While I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

It is always good to hear from citizens who demonstrate an awareness of the evils of communism and who display a desire to combat this threat to our freedoms. Enclosed is some material you may wish to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 92  
SEP 14 1961  
COMM-FBI

✓

SEP 14 1961  
FBI  
REC'D MAIL ROOM  
Drew

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evers \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (5)  
Listed next page

26 14 4 11 PM '61  
see NOTE next page

BS:fr (4)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

XEROX

SEP 21 1961

56 SEP 25 1961

**Enclosures**  
**What You Can Do To Fight Communism**  
**Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality**  
**Director's 4-17-61 Statement re Internal Security**  
**Expose of Soviet Espionage**  
**Series from "Christianity Today"**

**NOTE: Bufiles contain no information concerning correspondent.**



**Correspondent enclosed clippings from 9-9-61 issue**  
**of "Tyler Morning Telegraph" dealing with a speech Skousen made**  
**to Tyler Freedom Forum.**

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Ingram	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

*DeLoach*

Sept. 9, 1961

[Redacted]

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
 Director, F.B.I.  
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Knowing that you are a very busy person, I hesitate about writing this letter, but I feel that I must have information from someone on whom I can rely. You, I feel, are the only one that can tell me what I would like to know.

I am 32 years old, a housewife and the mother of two sons. I truly want to be a patriotic American and inform myself as a good citizen should. Feeling as I do, I am finding it harder every day to know what to believe and what not to believe. We have an organization in our city called the "Freedom Forum", and at first I was sold on it; these people were going to tell me what communism is and how I can combat it. But now I wonder if their purpose is only politics, they seem to keep talking about how rife our government is with communists, that the U.N. is just a kind of communist front, and a lot of other things that I simply do not understand.

Enclosed you will find a clipping from our morning newspaper, that will give an idea of what I am talking about. Mr. Skousen made his speech here in Tyler last night. Another former F.B.I. agent, Mr. Earl White, is president of the Freedom Forum.

[Redacted] and is, I am sure, a sincere person. He has been [Redacted] so I have heard his views on many things, and some of them are quite good. But, he is against the National Council of Churches

*gyp*

V

*12*  
 [Handwritten scribble]

1961 21 20

REC-51

100-30869-77 SEP 12 1961

**COPY TO AUDIENCE**

*note  
 ask 9.14.61  
 B.S. [unclear]*

**SIGNATURE**

XEROX

SEP 21 1961

347 314

and this is one of the main things that I would like to know about. He gives one the impression that the National Council of Churches is a very liberal organization, bordering on being pro-communist. Is this true? Mr. Hoover, I do not like to see anything having to do with the churches attacked, and unless this is absolutely true I think it should be scotched. You are the one person that I think can tell me where to get unbiased information on these subjects.

I am becoming leery of all these "authorities" and want to know real facts. May I take this opportunity to tell you that <sup>you are</sup> a person, for whom all citizens of this nation, have the greatest respect and admiration. The years of honest service that you have given to us all are sincerely appreciated. Thank you for any information you may be able to send me.

Sincerely,



ack 9-18-61  
BS:jam

# America Clean-Up Urged By Speaker

By LANE STEPHENSON

Morning Telegraph Staff Writer

What this country needs is to clean house in the State Department, reorganize the United Nations or else get out of it, break diplomatic relations with criminal Russia and slap the whole Communist block with a 100 per cent trade embargo.

This is what former FBI Agent W. Cleon Skousen of Salt Lake City told more than 1,000 applaud-

See picture on Page 8, Section 1

ing Tylerites and East Texans Friday night during the first public lecture sponsored by the permanent Tyler Freedom Forum.

Skousen, author of "The Naked Communist," traced most of this country's modern-time blunders straight to an elite, professional, left-wing segment of the U. S. State Department. He mentioned the ousted Alger Hiss as a prime example of this group which still has a strong voice in the formulation of national policy.

He called for a thorough investigation of the whole department.

The former Salt Lake City police chief was equally critical of the U. N. and, in particular, Dag Hammarskjold, its secretary-general. Hammarskjold, he said, is a Marxist socialist competing with Nikita Khrushchev for world domination.

Skousen cited the Congo situation to back up this contention.

This, he emphasized, was a Communist operation in the beginning and still is, but now under the disguise of the U. N.

Coming in for particular attack was the charter of the world organization, especially the portion which give veto power to the five members of the security council. Russia, he pointed out, used this authority effectively to avoid censure in the Hungarian revolution and investigation in the shooting down last year of an American reconnaissance bomber.

He noted that he and several other critics of the U.N. are now working on a revised charter and hope to have it completed in the near future.

Advocating taking the offensive in the cold war, Skousen said the U. S. should start looking upon Communists as international criminals and start doing a few things to them, rather than wait. (See AMERICA, Pg. 8, Sec. 1)

Tyler Morning Telegraph Sec. 1  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1956

## ● AMERICA

(Continued From Page 1, Sec. 1)  
ing to see what they are going to do to us.

To the delight of the audience, he at one time remarked, "It's been a terrible shock to the President to realize he's dealing with a criminal (Khrushchev)."

The only thing Khrushchev understands is action and tough language, Skousen contended, and every time this country has used it, Russia has backed down.

His suggestions in regards to doing something include breaking diplomatic relations and forcing our allies to join us in throwing up a complete trade embargo against the sagging economies of all the Communist countries.

Turning to the Berlin crisis, Skousen flatly stated, "There's absolutely nothing to negotiate. Berlin requires no settlement; it's already been settled by treaty."

Berlin, he continued, is nothing more than a crisis Russia creates at will to take the attention off its activities in other areas of the world.

Skousen said these other areas include Laos, India, Cuba, Africa and Southeast Asia.

ENCLOSURE 100-50869-778



**TYLER FREEDOM FORUM**—(From left) Marshall Adkins of Troup and Ray Osborn of Arp are shown being greeted Friday night to the first official function of the permanent Tyler Freedom Forum by Jennings Vaughn, one of its directors, and the Rev. Bill Moore, pas-

tor of Southern Oaks Baptist Church and a member of the Freedom Forum's executive committee. W. Cleon Skousen of Salt Lake City, author and former FBI agent, addressed the public meeting. (See story Page 1, Section 1.)

(Morning Telegraph Staff Photo)

ENCLOSURE

100-50869-772

2

REC-13 100-50769-777

September 13, 1961

EX-102

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated September 7, 1961, has been received, and I appreciate the interest prompting you to write.

I regret I am unable to furnish an answer to your inquiries. The FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. May I add that information in our files must be maintained as confidential through a regulation of the Department of Justice. I hope you will not infer that we either do or do not have data concerning subjects about which you asked.

I am enclosing some material pertaining to communism you may care to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 20  
SEP 13 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (4)

What You Can Do To Fight Communism  
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality  
Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism  
Christianity Today series

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles.

JH:cah (3)

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SEP 13 3 22 PM '61  
REC'D...HEADING  
FBI

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done

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edm

TRUE COPY

Sept 7, 1961

Mr Hoover,

I am a member of The "Church of the Brethern," and due to some reports against the "National Council of Churches of America" and also the "Revised Standard Version" of the "Bible."

A group of us members have been studing over these two. What we would like to know is if you have any records in your office of the members of the "Council," or the writers of the R. S. V. as being in anyway connected with the Communist. As members of the party, as sympathizers, or former members of the party. If so how many?

This is of utmost importance to us. Our belief is that the only way the Communist have of wrecking our way of Government is through the church. or any religious activities. This is the very thing we want to avoid, and by all means we don't want to support any organization where they are in.

This information will be of great help in our deciding to stay in the church or to look for one which does not support either of the two stated above

We would like this information as soon as possible

" Thank You Very Much "

Sincerely

X-102

REC-13

100-50869-777

/s/

[Redacted signature]

SEP 14 1961

Return address

[Redacted return address]

ack 9-15-61  
JH/cak  
1 cc - 9-11-61  
cak

6-1



Sept 7, 1961

Mr. Hoover,

I am a member of The Church of the  
Brethren, and due to some reports against the  
"National Council of Churches of America" and also  
the Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

A group of us members have been studying  
over these two. What we would like to know is if  
you have any records in your office of the members  
of the "Council", or the writers of the R.S.V. as being in  
anyway connected with the Communist. As members of  
the party, as sympathizers, or former members of the  
party. If so how many?

This is of utmost importance to us.  
Our belief is that the only way the Communist have  
of wrecking our way of Government is through the church  
or any religious activities. This is the very thing we  
want to avoid, and by all means we don't want to  
support any organization where they are in.

This information will be of great help  
in our decision to stay in the church or to  
look for one which does not support either of the  
two stated above

JH/cob  
9-11-61  
12-11

CONFIDENTIAL

We would like this information as  
soon as possible.

"Thank You Very Much"

Sincerely

[Redacted signature]

Return address

[Redacted return address]

SEP 11 10 30 AM '61

FBI  
REC'D - CORR & TOURS

11-9

REC-6  
9/11

100-50869-776

September 7, 1961

EX-113 Miss C. B.  
[Redacted]

SEP 7 4 00 PM '61  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
F B I

Dear [Redacted]:

I have received your letter dated August 31 and appreciate the concern which prompted you to write to me. Please accept my thanks for your kind comments and prayers.

In response to your request, the quotation you cited was taken from a statement I made before the Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, on March 26, 1947. I regret that copies of the substance of my remarks are now out of print and no longer available.

I would like to point out that it is a continuing program of the Communist Party to attempt infiltration of every part of our society, including religion. This is still true today. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations. I would like to emphasize, however, that churches will continue to be important targets in the over-all subversive plan of endeavoring to control our established institutions, and we must remain alert to any attempt to replace our national traditions with the atheistic philosophy of communism.

*Handwritten notes:*  
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J...  
D...  
C...  
W...

MAILED 80  
SEP - 7 1961  
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,  
L. Edgar Hoover

*Handwritten notes:*  
20 1 2 05  
1961  
JRS  
C...  
W...

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** Bufiles contain no information identifiable with the correspondent. The quotation she refers to appears in the 3rd sentence of the last paragraph, page 11 of the pamphlet entitled "Menace of Communism," which is the Director's statement made before the Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, March 26, 1947. The sentence referred to was pulled from the middle of the paragraph. This publication is out of print.

JRS:plt (3)  
82 SEP 19 1961 TELETYPE UNIT

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
August 31, 1961

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover:  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

The writer is a member of the Methodist Church also  
a Member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

In our town, The National Council of Churches is strongly  
supported by the best element of all denominations in our town. I do  
not belong and will not go along with this organization.

Recently in one of our church groups I read an article  
from "The Sword of the Lord" Edited by John R. Rice in Wheaton,  
Ill. Written by Rev. Archer Weniger, D. D. The caption, "The  
Deadly Parallel Between Some Objectives of the National Council of  
Churches and The Criminal Conspiracy of the Communist Party U S A".  
In this article he quoted: J Edgar Hoover stated, "I confess to a real  
apprehension so long as communists are able to secure Ministers of  
the gospel to do their evil work."

To nite at a dinner party this was discussed and I was told  
all kinds of ugly things concerning the paper, the Editor, and that you had  
never made such a statement. Of course I realize how busy you and your  
staff stay constantly, and I apologize for taking your time to read and  
answer this, but I feel to try to awaken our fine people of our little town,  
a good town! I must have some help. And From you. So will you please  
answer this letter and tell me if this above quote was made by you. Our  
dear church people are so gullible, I fear for what will be the results -

In our little southern towns we do not come face to face  
with communists and all sorts of communism but oh, how subtly it can  
work in our groups of good women and men.

Please, kindly answer this at your earliest convenience.  
May God bless and keep you and yours for years to come. We need you!!

Respectfully yours,  
[REDACTED]  
/s/ [REDACTED]

82RS

① 11/10/41 Council of Churches

[Redacted]

August 31, 1941

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover:  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington D.C.

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

8-1  
J

Dear Sir:

The writer is a Member of the Methodist Church also a Member of the daughters of the American Revolution.

In our town, The National Council of Churches is strongly supported by the best element of all denominations in our town. I do not believe and will not go along with this organization.

Recently in dist. of our Church groups I had an

REC-100-50869-776  
EX-113  
SEP 11 1941

Handwritten notes and scribbles at the bottom left.

National Council of Churches

Article from "The Sword of the Lord" Edited by John R. Rice in Wheaton, Ill. Written by Rev. Luther Weniger, D.D. the caption, "The Deadly Parallel Between Some Objectives of the National Council of Churches and The Criminal Conspiracy of the Communist Party USA"

8-1

In this article he quoted: J. Edgar Hoover stated, "I confess to a real apprehension so long as Communists are able to secure Ministers of the Gospel to do their evil work"

To Note at [redacted] Party this was discussed [redacted] was told all [redacted] things concerning the paper,

RECEIVED DIRECTOR FBI DEPT OF JUSTICE

1-2-50

[Redacted]

8-1

① National Council of Churches

the Editor, and that you had  
 never made such a statement.  
 Of course I realize how busy  
 you and your staff stay  
 constantly, and I apologize  
 for taking your time to read  
 and answer this. but I feel  
 to try to awaken our fine  
 people of our little town,  
 a good town! I must have  
 some help. and from you.  
 So will you please answer  
 this letter and tell me if  
 this above quote was made  
 by you.

of

*[Faint handwritten notes]*




4

Our Dear Church People  
are so gullible, I fear  
for what will be the  
Results -

8-1  
g

In our little southern town  
we do not come face to face  
with Communists and all  
kinds of Communism but  
oh, how subtly it can  
work in our groups of good  
women and men.

Please, kindly answer this  
at your earliest convenience.  
May God bless and keep you  
and yours for years to come.  
We need you!!

Respectfully yours,  


① National Council of Churches

12-19-74  
W.C.  
[unclear]



September 11, 1961

100-50869-775

REC-29

[REDACTED]

SEP 11 3 41 PM '61  
REC'D. HEADING ROOM  
FBI

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 5, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest. I am providing you with a copy of this letter in the event you may wish to furnish it to [REDACTED]

Sincerely yours,

*Dean*

J. Edgar Hoover

26 11 27 11, 61

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 80  
SEP 11 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (4): The Deadly Contest  
Faith In God - Our Answer to Communism  
Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion  
Christianity Today Series

*Applicant*  
*DCM*  
*RWA*

NOTE: Bufiles contain no references  
identifiable with either correspondent or [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

September 5, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

A former member of my church is convinced that you can supply a list of the names of known Communists affiliated with the National Council of Churches. Of course, I do not believe such a list exists. In any case, would you please write me concerning Communists affiliated with the National Council of Churches, and send a copy to the following:

[REDACTED]

Thank you very much.

Yours truly,

[REDACTED]

REC-29

100-50869-775

SEP 12 1961

ACK  
9-11-61  
RUA:K

EX-113

CORRESPONDENCE

September 7, 1961

REC-121

100-50869-774

REC-101

[REDACTED]

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI  
SEP 7 5 16 PM '61

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of August 31, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated. I want to thank you for your kind comments and for the confidence you expressed in the work of this Bureau.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest. We do not, however, make material of this type available on a continuing basis.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 80  
SEP - 8 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (4)  
SEE NOTE AND ENCLOSURES NEXT PAGE

SAW:ls\* (3)

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- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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SEP 8 10 15 AM '61  
REC'D - COMM. DIV.  
SEP 8 10 15 AM '61

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten mark]*



**Enclosures (4)**

**What You Can Do To Fight Communism**

**Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion**

**"How To Fight Communism"**

**One Nation's Response to Communism**

**NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.**

**The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**

August 31, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover, director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

I am a Methodist minister, with a long previous background of law enforcement, with one of the very large and outstanding law enforcement agencies of our country.

I write this at the behest of one of my parishioners, who is fearful that I have allowed myself to become a "dupe" of the forces of Communism, in some moderately "liberal" views which I hold.

The particular reference in which this lady requested me to write to you is in reference to the National Council of Churches. I am perfectly satisfied that this organization is one of the great forces for good in our present scene, and one whose loyalty and patriotism are above reproach, ---in fact, one of the potent forces against Communist influence in our country.

My parishioner, on the other hand, is satisfied that the Council is not only questionable in itself, but is honeycombed with subversive elements.

Personally, I have become weary of this latter point of view, with which I am very familiar. Yet, I promised to write to you for your opinion of the National Council, in this regard. I am aware that across the history of the Federal Council, and its successor, the National Council, there have been a few who have courted the Communist point of view, from idealistic motives, most of whom have since become disabused of their Communist leanings. It is my belief that none of these persons has ever held any important office in the Council, with the possible exception of one man, who fifty years ago, for a short period, did hold such office. He is now an old man, and no longer to be seriously reckoned with. *don*

While these are my convictions, based on observation and study, I am open to honest evidence. In your considered *REC-17* *10-50869-77* *1961*

*ad  
9-7-61  
J. Edgar Hoover*

*EX-102*

*CORRECTION*

opinion, is the National Council of Churches a dangerous organization, from the standpoint of Communist infiltration?

In closing, let me, as a law enforcement officer, as a minister, and as a citizen, express my utmost confidence in the Federal Bureau of Investigation in its responsibility of guarding against the infiltrative inroads of Communism. I wish I might say as much for some of the amateur groups having official status, who are so active in the field.

This letter is an honest search for information, though admittedly is written, not from my own sense of need, but at the insistence of a parishioner who is convinced that I am being led down dangerous paths.

Please place my name on a mailing list which will provide me with appropriate information in this field.

Sincerely,  


my

REC-45

100-50869-773

September 8, 1961

EX 107

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated September 1, 1961, has been received, and I appreciate the interest which prompted you to write.

Although I would like to be of service, the files of the FBI are confidential through a regulation of the Department of Justice. I hope you will not infer that we either do or do not have information in our files concerning the individuals or organizations about which you inquire.

I am enclosing some literature pertaining to communism you may care to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 80  
SEP - 8 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (3)  
3-60 LEB Introduction and An Analysis of the 17th National Convention of the Communist Party, USA  
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality  
Christianity Today Series

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

JH:lcw (3)

RECEIVED-SECTION

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DCM  
Pine

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Dun

[REDACTED]

**NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles.**

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

Sept 1, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Mr. Hoover,

Would you please furnish me with information on the following named individuals. I have heard that they are members or associates of communist front organizations. They have or still are associated with the National Council of churches.

George A. ~~Buttrick~~

Harry Emerson ~~Fosdick~~

G. Bromley ~~Oxnam~~

Ralph W. ~~Bockman~~

Thank You,  
[REDACTED]

REC-46

100-50869-773

25 SEP 11 1961

Oct: 9-8-61  
SH: ghe

101

CONFIDENTIAL  
[Signature]

[REDACTED]

September 8, 1961

**Enclosures:**

Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism  
Communism and Religion *by WC Sullivan*  
Director's Statement re Internal Security 4-17-61  
Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion  
Christianity Today series

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)

[REDACTED]



AMERICANISM  
The only ISM for me

[REDACTED]  
September 6, 1961

United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Thank you for your letter of September 1. It is a great relief to me to know that your department is still on the job. I am greatly disturbed that a news service writer would come up with such irresponsible statements. I have checked with the newspaper and they have suggested that I write into them the information you have sent me, and thereby try to undo the damage his statement may have done. We have enough to be concerned with these days without having to worry as to whether the F.B.I. is on the job or not.

I want to thank you also for the literature that you sent. It will be put to good use and passed around so that many people will benefit from it.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED] *ell*  
[REDACTED]

100-505-9-772

SEP 11 1961

SCIENCE

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at home  
6/31  
off*

64 SEP 14 1961

REC-32

100-50869-77

September 8, 1961

EX-113

*am*

[Redacted]

*OH 2*

Dear [Redacted]

SEP 9 7 30 PM '61  
RECEIVING ROOM

Your letter of September 1, 1961, has been received and the concern you expressed regarding the menace of communism is indeed appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiries.

With respect to your discussion, in my book, "Masters of Deceit," I pointed out that it is a continuing program of the Communist Party to attempt infiltration of every part of our society, including religion. This is still true today. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations. I would like to emphasize, however, that churches will continue to be important targets in the over-all subversive plan of endeavoring to control our established institutions, and we must remain alert to any attempts to replace our national traditions with the atheistic philosophy of communism.

I am enclosing some literature on the general subject of communism you may wish to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover, Director

*Handwritten initials and date: 9/21/61*

*Handwritten initials: DCM*

*Handwritten signature: Du Eff*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 82  
SEP - 8 1961  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)

SEP 15 1961

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

(SEE ENCLOSURES AND NOTE NEXT PAGE)

FBI - WASH DC

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Evans	
Mr. Malone	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Ingram	
Miss Gandy	

*Handwritten initials and signatures over the routing slip.*

[Redacted]

Sept. 1, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
 Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

You are the nation's number one authority on communism and the threat which it presents to America today. Because of this I write to you.

My wife and I are both members of the First Baptist Church here in [Redacted]. Our church is a member, in turn, of the American Baptist Association. There has been a great deal of talk in our congregation lately to the effect that our association has become too large and that the people are becoming remote to the organization itself. The chief fear that we have is that the organization may do things, or stand for things which we as individual members cannot subscribe to, and yet we may not know enough about our big organization to know what they really are supporting.

We as an association are members of the National Council of Churches. Many believe this organization, although pretending to be Christian, has communist infiltration to the point that it is classed as a subversive organization. Just last week I heard a man speak (Carl Presson - sp.) who has spent 26 years in the Communist Party but who just recently renounced the organization and became a Christian. He claimed that the National Council of Churches was not infiltrated, that it was founded by the Communists to serve as a front organization for them.

Would you be so kind as to give me the standing of the N. C. of C. according to your knowledge, as well as the Freedom Rider movement, and Mr. Martin Luther King?

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted signature]

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